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Thursday, October 31, 2013

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ONTARIO'S TOURISM MARKETING AGENCY TURNS TO MODEL WITH BIG SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE TO PLUG TOWN PAGE 4

Best places to haunt this Halloween

Whether you're looking for food, fun or just a good fright, there's something for you in T.O. tonight PAGE 25

Mt. Mirror bathes town in sunlight

Norwegian town that sits in the shadow of mountains gets a reprieve courtesy of three giant mirrors PAGE 20

Suicide ends tale of love and sorrow

Elderly couple who jumped to their deaths got married after losing family to cancer and the Nazis PAGE 3

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

EDGING OUT A VICTORY

The Celtics' Kelly Olynyk, who was born in Toronto and moved to Kamloops, B.C., and the Raptors' Amir Johnson battle for position in the key during a free throw on Wednesday. The Raptors opened the 2013-14 NBA season at home, taking the game 93-87. Story, page 44. RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Lisi wasn't the target of police probe: Judge

Arrest of Ford's friend. True target may be unveiled with release of 500-page document

Accused drug trafficker Alessandro "Sandro" Lisi was not the target of a massive police investigation that led to the arrest of the Etobicoke man, a court heard Wednesday.

"I don't think it's fair to say Mr. Lisi was the target," Superior Court Justice Ian Nordheimer said, shortly before ordering the release of roughly half of a nearly 500-page document detailing the probe.

Portions of the document the Crown says are not "essential" to the criminal investigation will be the subject of written arguments next week. Those sections, the Crown said, identifies "innocent parties" — people who were not arrested as part of the investigation.

The names of confidential informants and descriptions of "investigative techniques" are also being blacked out.

The actual target of the probe — sources have long said it was Mayor Rob Ford — may be known Thursday morning with the release of an "investigative narrative" that involves at least 70 people, including Lisi, a 35-year-old friend of Ford who, most recently, was convicted of threatening to kill a former girlfriend.

Courtroom watchers had been puzzled earlier over the size of the search-warrant document relative to the charges laid: possession and trafficking of marijuana, allegedly by Lisi and an Etobicoke drycleaner. Lisi's lawyer called it "extraordinary."

Detectives have refused to say when the probe started, though one document indicates it was rooted in Lisi's attempt in March to obtain, allegedly with a marijuana trade, a cellphone stolen (according to a source) from Ford.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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To Scarborough

Torontonians split on subway vs. LRT debate, poll finds

Mayor Rob Ford and his rival in the next election, TTC chair Karen Stintz, say residents want a subway in Scarborough.

But the latest polling from Forum Research shows that Torontonians are almost evenly split on subway-versus-LRT debate. The Scarborough LRT plan actually comes out ahead of either of two recent proposals to extend the Bloor-Danforth subway northeast of Kennedy Station. Despite the political noise around the two competing subway proposals, "it appears what most Torontonians want ... is an LRT that will actually stop in the places they want to go," Forum Research president Lorne Bozinoff said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mississauga

Mayor wants out of 2-tiered regional system of gov't

Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion is reopening an issue she's pushed for decades: Getting the city out of the two-tiered regional system of government.

"Mississauga's the sixth largest city in the country of Canada and we're not recognized or taken into account because we are not a complete government," she said Wednesday, after council passed a resolution to work on deciding whether "regional government is still viable." Under the current two-tiered system, Mississauga-Brampton-Caledon make up the Region of Peel. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Clock ticking on Bixi deal: Coun.

Toronto Bixi could lose financial backing from the city unless a deal is reached with the bike-sharing company before the next council meeting, Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong is warning.

"We are not sure it is possible to save Bixi," Minnan-Wong said Wednesday. "But we're going to continue to negotiate. The clock is ticking."

Bixi launched in Toronto in 2011 with a $4.8-million startup loan guarantee from the city. But the company has struggled to make its payments, and, if it defaults, the city would be on the hook for the outstanding $3.9 million. The Montreal-based company has said it needs to add 2,000 bikes to its current stock of 1,000 bikes. If a deal can't be reached, it's unclear what that would mean for the future of Bixi in Toronto.

Minnan-Wong, chair of the public works committee, said the city is concerned about Bixi's solvency and unhappy that they "changed the terms at the last moment" of a closed-door deal. He declined to discuss details, and a company spokesman could not be reached for comment.

On Wednesday, Mayor Rob Ford's executive committee asked staff to continue negotiations with Bixi and to report directly to council on Nov. 13 to 14. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Bixi bikes
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Lifelong love story ends with suicide pact

Neighbours leave flowers at the base of the tower where Vladimir Fiser and his wife, Marika Ferber, jumped to their deaths in Etobicoke.
MARCO CHOWN OVED/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Vladimir Fiser and Marika Ferber. Elderly married couple jumped from their Etobicoke apartment building to end her chronic pain

The story of Vladimir Fiser and Marika Ferber probably never would have been told had it not been for the way it ended.

The married couple in their 80s were found at the base of their Etobicoke apartment building just before 8 a.m. Tuesday, after seemingly deciding to jump to their deaths together to put an end to Ferber's chronic pain.

Friends told of a pair who bucked the odds and rode the waves of history to arrive at their nondescript apartment tower on the edge of Toronto.

Fiser and Ferber were both born in the small Croatian city of Osijek on the eve of the Second World War, said longtime friend and neighbour Mira Vlatkovic. They befriended each other as children in the small Jewish community, which was torn apart when the Nazis invaded.

They found each other again later, by then both married to others and living in Israel.

When their spouses died of cancer a day apart, she said, they turned their lifelong friendship into a second marriage. They ended that marriage and their lives together this week, apparently without breathing a word of their plan to friends or neighbours. Their suicide pact was spelled out in a letter found by police in their 18th floor apartment. No details are being released publicly. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The only trace

On Wednesday, at the orange brick building near Kipling Ave. and Eglinton Ave. W, the only trace of their plunge was a small collection of flowers and notes.

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City hall

Higher garbage fees proposed

After freezing garbage fees last year, Toronto officials want to raise them by three per cent effective Jan. 1.

The proposal, which needs city council approval, would see the annual cost of a small bin go from $224 to $230.72; medium from $271.93 to $280.09; and large from $369.31 to $380.39.

The charges are intended to cover inflation in the cost of running the solid-waste division, said Coun. Denzil Minnan-Wong. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Yorkville

Drake sells downtown digs

Drake won't be going home to his posh Yorkville condo.

The Toronto-raised rapper sold his 1 St. Thomas St. condo for $3.75 million, below the asking price of $4.2 million when it went on the market this July, confirmed local real-estate website and research firm BuzzBuzzHome on Wednesday.

The condo sold on Oct. 21, a few days before his 27th birthday and hometown concert last week.

It was not immediately known whether the star, who often proclaims his affection for the city, will relocate elsewhere in the GTA. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Drake THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Adam Azzopardi, 29, and Monica Starzynski, 27, are set to tie the knot on Halloween in a horror-themed wedding at Screemers, where they both work as monsters. RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

This wedding bash ought to be a screaming success

It's a match made in hell. She, a gas-mask-clad biological horror. He, a leather-faced, misunderstood chainsaw tailor specializing in suits of human skin.

Two monsters, united in their love of terrifying Torontonians, will tie the knot on Halloween Day in a ceremony at Screemers, the haunted-house theme park where they both work as "monsters."

Adam Azzopardi, 29, and Monica Starzynski, 27, are happiest when other people are screaming and running away from them. The two are veterans of the park, with Azzopardi stalking the halls at Exhibition Place for 15 years and Starzynski for 12.

Theirs is a romance that rivals Romeo and Juliet — if the star-crossed lovers had become the living dead after taking poison and then spent the rest of their un-lives together.

"I call it my Halloween home," said Azzopardi. "When I walk into that place every October, the smell of that building, the smell of the scares, it just sends this feeling all over my body, like 'I'm home.'"

Starzynski added: "Scaring people is honestly the funniest thing in the world — I can't believe I get paid for it."

The couple will make things official Thursday with a horror-themed ceremony held at the Screemers grounds. Their bridal party is going to be dressed in vampire attire. A haunted house will be running, fully staffed. Azzopardi has a striped tuxedo designed after the eponymous character in the movie Beetlejuice, and Starzynski's dress matches.

They expect around 300 people will attend the ceremony, which takes place in the afternoon. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Parry Sound a playground for Playboy model

Money well spent?
Provincial marketing body recruited Leticia Cline to promote region's tourism

The Ontario government's tourism marketing agency paid for a Playboy model to help promote travel in the Parry Sound region as part of a provocatively framed publicity campaign.

Under the rubric #edgy-adventures, which was used to label events on social media, American model Leticia Cline and professional Canadian motocross racer Ami Houde participated last week in a variety of outdoor activities to promote local tourism, hosted by snowcross professional Shelby Mahon. Activities included all-terrain vehicle and dirt-bike riding, a spin on a hovercraft, and a tour in a float plane.

The $14,000 campaign was jointly financed in a private-public partnership, with the Ontario Tourism Marketing and Promotion Corporation (OTMPC) pitching in $6,500 of the estimated cost, said spokesperson Michael Hora in an email.

Of the total cost, $1,650 was spent on transport for Cline, Houde and Mahon, as well as a freelance writer and two journalists from ATV.com, Hora said.

In an interview Wednesday, OTMPC president and CEO Ronald Holgerson said Cline was chosen by Mahon as someone who would be less familiar with the extreme sports and environment of Northern Ontario, and her strong social-media presence would help promote the region's tourism.

Holgerson added the model was also invited because she's an amateur motocross rider.

"I don't think that person's other life" — as a model — "was necessarily intended to be part of the story," he said.

To promote the tour, an article titled Beauty, Brains and Livin' on the Edge: Special Guests Vow to Ride Parry Sound By Any Means, was posted online. It described Houde and Cline as "breathtaking beauties" who would deliver Parry Sound a "double dose of intoxication." **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Model Leticia Cline posted this photo on Instagram with the Ontario government-sanctioned tag #edgyadventures. INSTAGRAM

Quoted

"The past week in Ontario, Canada, has been one of the best experiences of my life."

Model Leticia Cline in a Facebook post following the conclusion of the publicity tour on Monday.

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Rehab. New research centre to look at what concussions do to children's brains

The Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital launched a Concussion Research Centre Tuesday with the goal of better understanding the effects concussions have on children's brains.

"Until now, concussion research has largely focused on adults, but we know that the brains and bodies of youth and children are continually developing," said senior clinician Dr. Michelle Keightley. "This makes them significantly more vulnerable to the effects of a concussion."

The centre will conduct research into the identification, assessment, and management of concussions in youth.

According to Keightley, concussions are common for kids. Her research has found 10 to 15 per cent of Ontario minor league hockey players suffer concussions each year — which is about 36,000 concussions every year in Ontario. The research has also found that after concussions, even young people who show no continued symptoms "showed poorer cognitive performance" than the average in multi-tasking tests.

Funding for the concussion centre comes from two major grants from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) totalling $1.2 million and a $1 million donation from the Trillium Automobile Dealers Association. JESSICA SMITH/METRO

Concussion facts:

- Returning to activity (school, sport, etc.) too soon after a concussion can result in delayed recovery and impaired performance.
- If a second concussion is experienced before the first one has healed, children and youth may be at risk for a more serious brain injury with life-threatening implications (second-impact syndrome).

SOURCE: HOLLAND BLOORVIEW CONCUSSION RESEARCH CENTRE

Toronto Maple Leafs hockey legend Ron Ellis meets two young fans at the Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital's launch of their Concussion Research Centre Tuesday in Toronto. CONTRIBUTED

Olivia Wise, right, a Toronto 16-year-old with a brain tumour, records a version of Katy Perry's hit song Roar in September. After it racked up 150,000 hits on YouTube, Perry, left, sent a video message back to thank her and wish her well. LEFT: GETTY IMAGES; RIGHT: YOUTUBE SCREENSHOT

'Keep roaring': Katy Perry to T.O. teen with brain cancer

YouTube cover song. Olivia Wise's condition has deteriorated rapidly, but she is reportedly getting a 'huge' kick out of pop singer's response

A video featuring Olivia Wise, a Toronto teenager fighting brain cancer, singing her version of Perry's "Roar" quickly racked up 150,000 hits on YouTube this month and got picked up on blogs in Canada and the U.S.

This week, Perry responded.

"It was very moving and it sounded great," the pop star says in her video message to Wise.

"I love you, a lot of people love you, and that's why your video got to me, and it moved everybody that saw it.

"Thank you so much. Keep roaring."

Her video also included a link to a fund in Wise's name to raise money for brain tumour research.

Wise's video was her cousin Jeff Kassel's idea. Wise, 16, always loved to sing. As her condition started to decline after two years fighting cancer, Kassel arranged for her to get some recording time with his friend Jon Levine, a music producer based in California.

"It was really just for an experience for her to have, and her family," he said.

When she went into the studio last month, she couldn't walk and was having a hard time breathing, and "managing a lot of pain," Kassel said.

Fluff gets weight

"To me it was a fluffy song that doesn't sound so fluffy when she sings it."

Jeff Kassel, Olivia Wise's cousin, who set up recording time for Wise at his friend's studio

But she managed to sing Perry's anthem to self-confidence and tenacity in a soft voice, set to a delicate piano arrangement.

"I am a champion and you're going to hear me roar," she sings in the video, sitting in a wheelchair, as a smile spreads across her face.

Kassel admits he didn't even think of the song's meaning before he heard his cousin sing it.

"You hear it totally different," he said. "It gave the song a stronger meaning. I didn't see it before."

The plan was just to post the video on YouTube for her friends and family to watch, he said. But Wise and her family were amazed and thrilled to see it spread so far online.

Olivia Wise CONTRIBUTED

"You don't know the half of it when you just hear a girl singing, and she's sitting in a chair and she still looks beautiful, and she still seems vibrant and full of life, and you don't know what she's been battling and what she's going through, but I guess somehow people get it, because it's making the rounds," said Kassel.

Wise's condition has deteriorated rapidly in the past few weeks, he said, but she saw Perry's message and was "getting a huge kick out of it."

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Source? SARS-like virus found in Chinese bats

A consortium of international scientists has discovered a SARS-like virus recovered from a Chinese horseshoe bat, further solidifying the theory that these bats are the ultimate source of the virus that killed more than 900 people around the globe in 2003.

The new virus, which they called WIV1, is the closest match yet between SARS and coronaviruses from bats.

The scientists also reported that the virus uses the same receptor, ACE2, to latch onto and infect cells that SARS does. In laboratory work, WIV1 was able to directly infect human cells. That, they suggested, means that viruses like this may not need an animal go-between to cause human outbreaks — they may be able to jump directly from bats to people.

The Chinese horseshoe bat CONTRIBUTED

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Yahoo, Google centres

NSA spies on data records: Report

The National Security Agency has secretly broken into the main communications links that connect Yahoo and Google data centres around the world, the Washington Post reported Wednesday, citing documents obtained from former NSA contractor Edward Snowden.

The NSA's principal tool to exploit the data links is a project called MUSCULAR, operated jointly with the agency's British counterpart, GCHQ, the Post said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Wynne takes a green turn to fund GTA-Hamilton transit

Green bonds. Program won't necessarily get the province cheaper financing, but it is expected to attract new investors: Experts

Ontario will be the first province in Canada to issue so-called green bonds next year to help fund public transit expansion, Premier Kathleen Wynne said Wednesday.

The program will be unveiled in next week's fall economic update and is an innovative tool to raise the money that's needed to build transit across the province, she said.

"The worldwide market for green bonds in the last year has doubled, and it's now estimated to be more than $346 billion — those are U.S. dollars."

It's the first measure Wynne has promised to help raise the billions of dollars needed to expand public transit in the heavily congested Toronto and Hamilton area.

It will require legislation and certification, said Finance Minister Charles Sousa. But it won't be a confidence vote that could topple the minority Liberal government.

Premier Kathleen Wynne, seen riding the 11:13 a.m. westbound GO train in September, said Ontario plans to introduce green bonds to pay help pay for public transit. ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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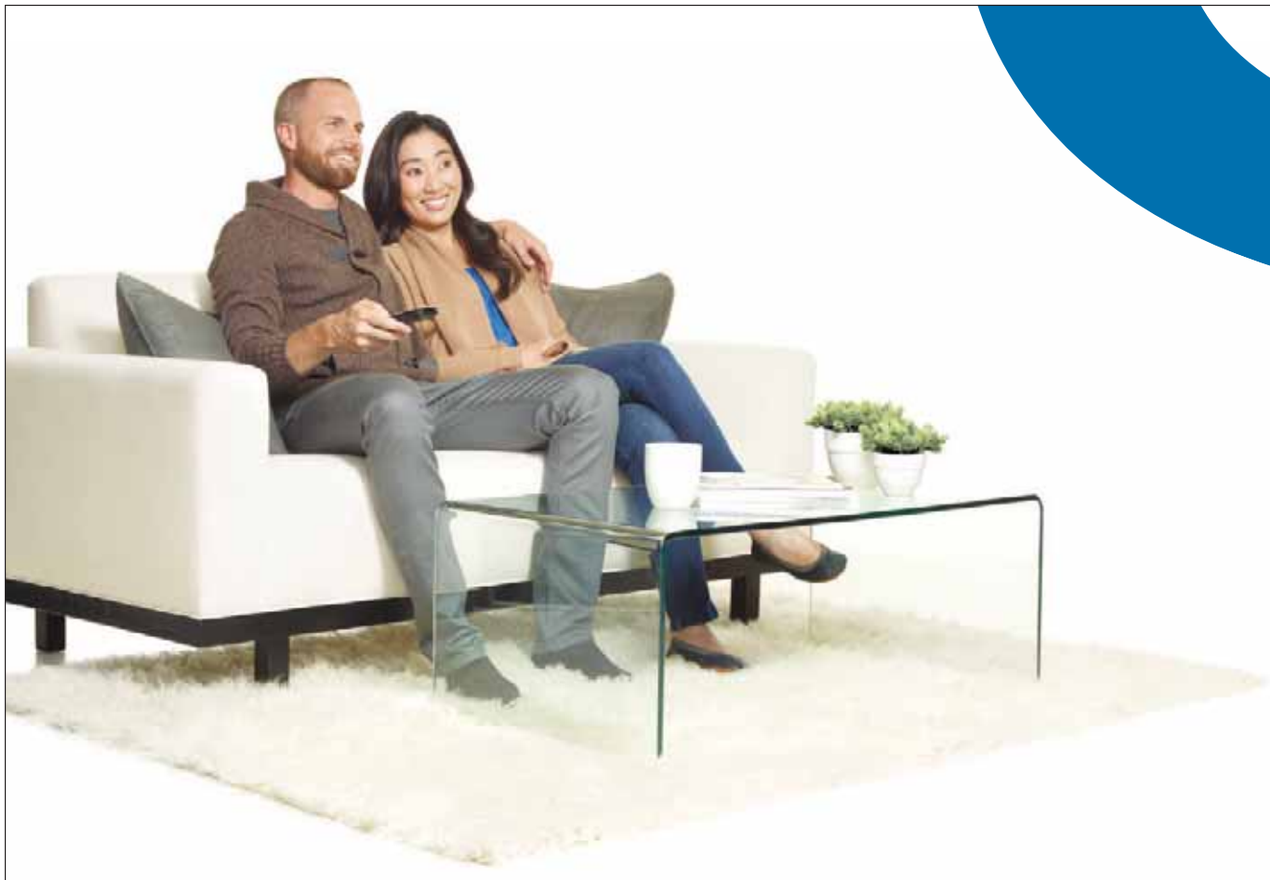

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Dark matter gives science no signals

A mystery search for the unknown.
Substance is crucial to the universe, but no one knows what it looks like

More than one kilometre underground in an abandoned gold mine, one of the most important quests in physics has come up empty-handed in the search for the elusive substance known as dark matter, scientists announced Wednesday.

The most advanced Earth-based search for the mysterious material that has mass but cannot be seen turned up "absolutely no signal" of dark matter, said Richard Gaitskell of Brown University, a scientist working on the Large Underground Xenon experiment. A detector attached to the International Space Station has so far also failed to find any dark matter.

Physicists released their initial findings after the experiment's first few months of operation at the Sanford Underground Research Facility, built in the former Homestake gold mine in South Dakota's Black Hills.

With 1,400 metres of earth helping screen out background radiation, scientists tried to trap dark matter, which they hoped would be revealed in the form of weakly interacting massive particles, nicknamed WIMPS. The search, using the most sensitive equipment in the world, tried looking for the light fingerprint of a WIMP bouncing off an atomic nucleus of xenon cooled to minus 101 degrees.

But nothing was found. They are already planning to build a more sensitive experiment on the site, using a bigger tank of xenon.

Essentially, scientists are searching for something they are fairly sure exists and is crucial to the entire universe. But they do not know what it looks like nor where to find it.

"It's ghost-like matter," said Daniel McKinsey, a physicist at Yale University.

The lack of success could mean the instruments are inadequate, Gaitskell and McKinsey said.

Researchers "are really searching in the dark in a way," said Harvard University physicist Avi Loeb, who is not part of the LUX team. "We have no clue. We don't know what this matter is." Or, considering the lack of knowledge about what dark matter really is, "perhaps we're going in the wrong direction," Loeb said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Dark matter

About one-quarter of the universe is made of it, but nobody knows exactly what dark matter actually is.

- The LUX experiment was 20 times more sensitive than previous attempts at finding dark matter.
- Scientists say their next attempt may be 1,000 times more sensitive.

Catholic church

Priest says he was fired for flagging sex-abuse claim

A Roman Catholic priest says his attempt to raise the issue of sexual abuse with colleagues resulted in him being ostracized and eventually fired from a famous Montreal church.

Rev. Andre Samson says he's been reprimanded for sharing during lunch at St. Joseph's Oratory, the story of a man who had told him about being sexually assaulted by a priest from another parish.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cosmos

Earth-like planet found

Scientists have found a planet way out in the cosmos that's close in size and content to Earth — an astronomical first.

The report in the journal Nature says Kepler-78b may be too hot for life, but appears to be made of rock and iron, just like Earth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's just the Pope talking

A young boy stole the show playing around Pope Francis while the pontiff continued delivering his speech undisturbed, occasionally patting the boy's head, during an audience with families in St. Peter's Square, at the Vatican on Saturday. L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Hostages Thierry Dol, centre left, and Pierre Legrand. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hostages return home

Held by al-Qaida. French president Hollande said no money was paid, though country has previously paid ransoms

Four French citizens held hostage by al-Qaida militants landed in France on Wednesday after three years in captivity in the punishing African Sahel.

The wife and daughters of one hostage, Daniel Larribe, rushed to hug him, and the three held each other while crying. Other friends and family snapped photos of their loved ones finally home.

President Francois Hollande greeted each of the hostages on the tarmac at a military airport outside Paris.

At the time of their capture, the four — Pierre Legrand, Thierry Dol, Marc Feret and Larribe — were working in Arlit, Niger, where the French state-controlled nuclear giant Areva operates a uranium mine.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Reunited

"It's like we used to say to each other when we were in captivity together: Every day is a victory."

Francoise Larribe, wife of one hostage, Daniel. She was a hostage herself but was released a year ago.

EGLINTON CROSSTOWN

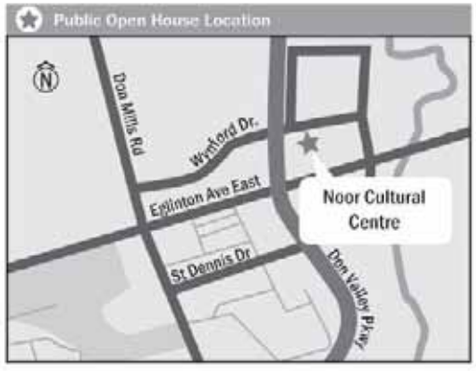
METROLINX
An agency of the Government of Ontario

Station Design Update Meetings

Rapid and reliable transit is coming to the centre of Toronto. The Crosstown will move Torontonians to work, school and play faster than ever before – reducing travel times and enhancing our economy and our environment. The Crosstown will run along Eglinton, with more than 10 kilometres underground, making transit travel up to 60 per cent faster than today.

Metrolinx invites you to attend meetings for information on preliminary station and stop designs for the Eglinton Crosstown project.

The first meeting will cover preliminary station and stop designs from Laird Drive to Wynford Drive, as well as information on the future construction of a tunnel boring machine launch shaft that will be located east of Brentcliffe Road.



Date: Wednesday, November 6th, 2013
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Noor Cultural Centre
123 Wynford Dr, North York, ON

The second meeting will cover the preliminary station designs from Avenue Road to Bayview Avenue.

Date: Thursday, November 7th, 2013
Time: 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Northern Secondary School
851 Mount Pleasant Road, Toronto

The meetings will be open house format, and will begin at 6:30 p.m. with an opportunity to view displays and speak one-on-one with staff.

We look forward to seeing you there.

For more Crosstown information:

Visit the Crosstown Community Office at 1848 Eglinton Avenue West (at Dufferin)

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Tel: 416-782-8118
TTY: 1-800-387-3652
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Disputed territory. Israel green-lights East Jerusalem construction

Israel on Wednesday announced plans to build 1,500 new homes in East Jerusalem, the part of the city claimed by the Palestinians, just hours after it freed a group of Palestinian prisoners as part of a deal to set peace talks in motion.

The settlement construction was seen as an attempt by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to make up for the prisoner release, for which he has been sharply criticized at home. The prisoners were jailed for deadly attacks on Israelis.

Interior Ministry spokeswoman Lital Apter said Wednesday that the 1,500 apartments would be built in Ramat Shlomo, a sprawling settlement in east Jerusalem. She said Israel also plans to develop an archaeology and tourism site near the Old City, home to Jerusalem's most sensitive holy sites.

Israel captured east Jerusalem, along with the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in the 1967 Mideast war.

The Palestinians seek all three areas for a future state, with east Jerusalem as their capital.

Israel considers all of Jerusalem to be its eternal capital, and Netanyahu has vowed never to divide the city. Israel has built a series of settlements, including Ramat Shlomo, to solidify its control.

An Israeli wearing a Palestinian scarf protests the release of 26 Palestinian prisoners. GETTY IMAGES

Although Israel's annexation of east Jerusalem is not internationally recognized, it considers these settlements to be neighbourhoods of the city.

Israel first announced the Ramat Shlomo plans in 2010 during Vice-President Joe Biden's visit to Israel, sparking a diplomatic rift with Washington that took months to mend.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Zimbabwe

21 killed on their way to a funeral

Zimbabwe state radio says at least 21 people died when their open truck collided with a tanker carrying ethanol fuel in southeastern Zimbabwe. The Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corp. reported Wednesday that the truck ferrying mourners sideswiped a tanker carrying the highly flammable ethanol spirit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Carolina

Custody dispute ends in murders

Six people found dead in a U.S. home were shot in a domestic dispute that ended with the gunman's suicide. Greenwood County Sheriff Tony Davis identified the gunman as Bryan Sweatt, 27. Police said he had dated one of the women who was murdered and had a child with her.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Embattled Mike Duffy stars in a new song and dance

Senate saga spoof. P.E.I. radio morning man (he's as crafty as a fox) pokes fun at senator with a cheeky parody song

A radio station in P.E.I. has made a parody song poking fun at their Senator Mike Duffy's recent speeches in the expenses scandal.

Remixing the popular song What Does The Fox Say? morning host Matt MacLeod of P.E.I.'s Hot 105.5 put together a spoof song called What Does The Duff Say?

The song uses clips from Duffy's Senate remarks such as, "I was ordered by the prime minister to pay the money back," as the melody and beat of the original song play in the background.

A voice chimes in as the chorus singing, "What does the Duff say?"

MacLeod borrowed clips from the radio station's newsroom to do the remix.

The station's program director, Myles MacKinnon, said P.E.I. has about 140,000 residents, for whom Duffy's expenses saga is "the best reality TV you can imagine."

"We're having a lot of fun with it. We know it's a serious thing, but our job is to have fun with it," MacKinnon said Wednesday.

Senators are looking at a motion that would see Duffy, Pamela Wallin and Patrick Brazeau suspended from the red chamber. But a vote on the motion appears to have been put off until Friday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

The Fox (What Does The Fox Say?) is a dance music video, above, by Norwegian comedy duo Ylvis that has been viewed about 175 million times. A parody of the song features Sen. Mike Duffy, inset.

YOUTUBE/SCREEN GRAB; INSET: THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Styled for Sochi ... next stop the winners' podium?

Will this be a winning look? Curler Cheryl Bernard and skier Jan Hudec give Canadians the first glimpse of the styles our athletes will wear at the 2014 Winter Olympics. As always, the patriotic designs flaunt Canada's colours as well as imagery of the polar bear, beaver and loon. Bonnie Brooks, right, president of the official outfitter, The Hudson's Bay Co., helped unveil the uniforms at a Toronto ceremony Wednesday. The athletes' clothing is being made in Canada, she said. Replicas for consumers will be made offshore, mostly in China. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Halloween howls

Her trick won't be a treat for chubby kids

It won't be a very happy Halloween for some children in Fargo, N.D.

A woman who identified herself as "Cheryl" told a morning radio show she plans to dole out "fat letters" to "moderately obese" trick-or-treaters Thursday night to inform them of the dangers of being overweight.

"Cheryl" decided to opt for the letters instead of handing out fruit or granola bars because parents need to "step up."

"Your child is, in my opinion, moderately obese and should not be consuming sugar and treats," her letters will declare.

METRO IN BOSTON

Tax fraud shocks

Feds misplace laptops ... and millions of dollars

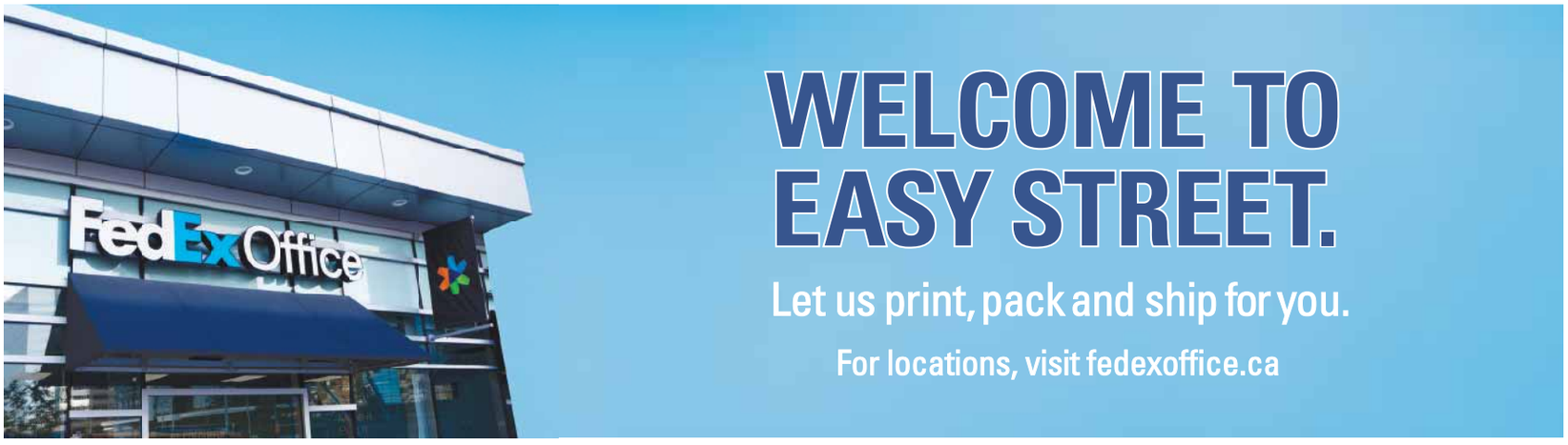
Hundreds of weapons, BlackBerrys, laptops and iPads have gone missing or been stolen or destroyed, according to the federal government's annual accounting of its property.

Missing money and absent items are outlined in an annual report to Parliament, tabled Wednesday.

The amount of tax fraud discovered in the last year is estimated at about $250 million, down from more than $300 million last year.

But employment insurance fraud is up, reaching about $159 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Tunisian police secure the area where a bomber blew himself up in Sousse, Tunisia, on Wednesday.
RAGHDA JAMMALI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tunisian extremists strike tourist sites

Terror. Previously, al-Qaida classified Tunisia as place for preaching, not attacks — but times have changed

A suicide bomber and a teenager carrying a backpack loaded with explosives attacked two sites popular with tourists Wednesday, raising fears that Tunisia's Islamist extremists may be adopting more violent tactics.

No one was killed aside from the suicide bomber, but with officials saying both men belonged to the same extremist group, the attacks could signal the adoption of more deadly tactics by Tunisia's extremists.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The attacks

- Hotel guards stopped the suicide bomber from entering the Riadh Palm in Sousse, then chased him to a beach where he blew himself up.
- In Monastir, an 18-year-old was subdued before he could attack.

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UN report

'Childhood must never be derailed by motherhood'

Recent research has suggested that teen pregnancies in the developing world are declining, but more than 7 million girls under the age of 18 are still giving birth each year and suffering drastic consequences, a UN report said Wednesday.

The UN Population Fund expressed particular alarm about the dangers facing girls 14 or younger, who account for 2 million of the 7.3 million births to women under 18 in developing countries. This group faces the gravest long-term social and health consequences from giving birth as teens.

The report looked at births to women under 18 worldwide, the underlying causes of teen pregnancy, and possible solutions to the problem, which the UN said is part of a vicious cycle of rights violations.

Wednesday's report called for a new approach to curbing teen pregnancies that minimizes the emphasis placed on girls' behaviour as a cause.

"Childhood must never be derailed by motherhood," it said, calling for greater efforts to end child marriage and more action on gender equality.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Derailed futures

"A girl who is pregnant at 14 is a girl whose rights have been violated and whose future is derailed."

Dr. Babatunde Osotimehincupation, executive director of the UN Population Fund

Former News International chief executive Rebekah Brooks arrives at the Old Bailey court for the phone-hacking conspiracy trial Wednesday in London, England. DAN KITWOOD/GETTY IMAGES

Phone-hacking a 'conspiracy'

News of the World.
Prosecutor opens the long-awaited trial by saying it's inconceivable top execs didn't know about eavesdropping

A U.K. prosecutor said Wednesday that there was "a conspiracy which involved a significant number of people" to hack phones at the Rupert Murdoch-owned News of the World, revealing that three senior journalists at the now-defunct newspaper have pleaded guilty to illegally eavesdropping on voicemails.

Opening the long-awaited hacking trial of former News of the World editors Rebekah Brooks, Andy Coulson and others, prosecution lawyer Andrew Edis said hacking and other illegal activity at the paper and its sister tabloid, The Sun, went on for a decade. He said it was inconceivable that the top executives didn't know about it.

"They were in charge of the purse strings," Edis said, adding that they signed off on illicit payments.

"Mrs. Brooks personally approved nearly 40,000 pounds for stories" to a senior defence official, Edis said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Background

The trial stems from the revelation in 2011 that News of the World employees eavesdropped on the voicemails of celebrities, politicians, crime victims and others.

- The scandal led Murdoch to shut the 168-year-old newspaper and spurred wide-ranging criminal investigations.

Um, that's not covered.
Employee denied workers' comp for sex injury

Australia's highest court on Wednesday denied workers' compensation to a government employee who was injured while having sex in a motel room during a business trip.

The 4-1 decision from the High Court said the woman's employer did not induce or encourage her to participate in the sex, so the federal government's insurer, Comcare, was not liable to compensate her. A lower court had said the woman was injured in the course of her employment and should be compensated.

The woman, who cannot be identified for legal reasons, was a federal civil servant in her 30s when she was hospitalized for the injury in 2007. She and a man were having sex in her motel room when a glass light fixture above the bed fell onto her face, injuring her nose and mouth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

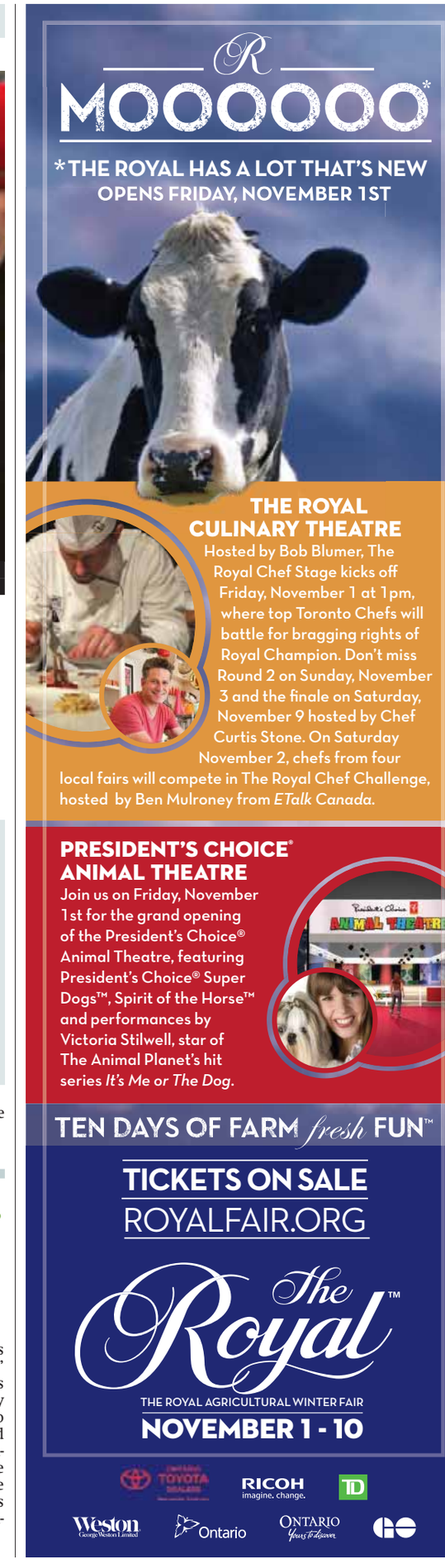
Do your work, don't twerk.
Dance shakes its butt onto school's forbidden list

One Southern California high school has added twerking to its list of dances that are banned for students.

The Orange County Register reports Tuesday that administrators at Aliso Niguel High School decided the rump-busting dance is sexually suggestive and should no longer be allowed on campus or at dances.

Twerking now joins "freaking" and "grinding" as prohibited dances at the Orange County school. Those who break the rules could be ineligible for future dances for the remainder of the school year. Parents also will be notified.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


MOOOOOO*
*THE ROYAL HAS A LOT THAT'S NEW
OPENS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST
THE ROYAL CULINARY THEATRE
Hosted by Bob Blumer, The Royal Chef Stage kicks off Friday, November 1 at 1pm, where top Toronto Chefs will battle for bragging rights of Royal Champion. Don't miss Round 2 on Sunday, November 3 and the finale on Saturday, November 9 hosted by Chef Curtis Stone. On Saturday November 2, chefs from four local fairs will compete in The Royal Chef Challenge, hosted by Ben Mulroney from ETalk Canada.
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Consumer-friendly law.
Ontario MPPs take shock out of cellphone bills

New rules to ease cellphone bill shock will soon become law in Ontario.

A government bill designed to address their complaints about wireless services passed a final vote in the legislature Wednesday.

Consumer Services Minister Tracy MacCharles says it will allow cellphone users to cancel their contracts at no cost after two years. She said it would cap cancellation fees and bring in all-in pricing.

MacCharles says providers would have to write contracts in plain language, spelling out which services come with the basic fee and which ones would cost more. They'd also have to get explicit consent from cellphone users before altering the contract.

Users can't get charged for services that they can't access while their phones are being repaired under warranty and they can't lose their phone numbers if they don't sign up for another contract right away, she said.

Cellphone contracts have become a big source of complaints to her ministry, MacCharles said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mirrors CRTC's code of conduct

Ontario's rules have almost identical provisions as a national code by Canada's telecommunications regulator.

- The CRTC's wireless code of conduct allows cellphone customers to walk away from contracts after two years without early cancellation penalties.
- Early cancellation fees must not exceed the value of a device subsidy and it must be gradually eliminated over 24 months.

Norwegian town gets light where the sun don't shine

It's done with mirrors.
Families cheered as the sun hit mirrors and reflected down onto the faces of children

Youths play in the sun after the official opening of giant sun mirrors in the town of Rjukan, Norway, Wednesday. The town is normally shrouded in shadow for almost six months a year. NTB SCANPIX, TERJE BENDIKSBY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Residents of the small Norwegian town of Rjukan have finally seen the light.

Tucked in between steep mountains, the town is normally shrouded in shadow for almost six months a year, with residents having to catch a cable car to the top of a nearby precipice to get a fix of midday vitamin D.

But on Wednesday faint rays from the winter sun for the first time reached the town's market square, thanks to three 17-square-metre mirrors placed on a mountain.

TV footage of the event showed the centre of the crowded square light up a touch, but not as if hit by direct sunlight. Still, residents said the effect was noticeable.

"Before when it was a fine day, you would see that the sky was blue and you knew that the sun was shining. But you couldn't quite see it," said Karin Roe, from the local tourist office. "This feels warm. When there is no time to get to the top of the mountains on weekdays, it will be lovely to come out for an hour and feel this warmth."

Like much of Scandinavia, the town of Rjukan often is freezing throughout the winter, but on Wednesday it was 7 degrees Celsius there.

The Italian town of Viganella has a similar, but smaller, sun mirror. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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After sheer-pant debacle

Lululemon names new product boss

Lululemon Athletica Inc. has named former Kmart Apparel president Tara Poseley as its new chief product officer, a key role for the Vancouver-based retailer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 95.38¢ (-0.13¢)

TSX 13,455.33 (+14.72)

OIL $96.77 US (-$1.43)

GOLD $1,349.30 US (+$3.80)

Natural gas: $3.64 US (no change)
Dow Jones: 15,618.76 (-61.59)

Actor Ashton Kutcher, who has made a career playing male bimbos, is now a 'product engineer' at Lenovo. The company insists he will not just be a pretty pitchman, but also a 'deeply integrated' part of the company. MICHAEL KOVAC/GETTY IMAGES FOR LENOVO

Lenovo's pretty pitchman and, um, 'product engineer'

Ashton Kutcher. The model turned actor, best known for playing a dim hunk on That '70s Show, is now an 'engineer' for a computer company

Computer-maker Lenovo has hired tech-savvy actor Ashton Kutcher to help design and pitch its latest line of tablets, dubbing the Hollywood star a "product engineer" who can bring his ideas along with his image.

It's the latest tech foray for the Two and a Half Men performer who recently starred in a biopic about innovative giant Steve Jobs and has invested venture capital in more than a dozen Silicon Valley startups.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He'll be in a cubicle 9-5 then?

Lenovo declared the actor will play a big role: "This partnership goes beyond traditional bounds by deeply integrating him into our organization as a product engineer as we look at developing the next wave of products," said a spokesman.

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TORONTO INTERRUPTED

As we prepare for Halloween, it's hard to imagine that just a year ago we were cleaning up after one of the biggest storms to hit Toronto — hurricane Sandy. It was a storm to remember. Approximately 218,000 customers lost power over the course of the event, and Toronto Hydro fielded 17,000 calls through our customer service centre.

As the weather becomes increasingly unpredictable, I anticipate we will have more storms like Sandy, and more heavy rains and flooding similar to what we saw in July. To prepare, we are continually reviewing our emergency response procedures and working with the City of Toronto to ensure your needs are met during these events.

The importance of communicating to you is heightened during emergencies, especially when your electricity service is interrupted.

One improvement we are working towards is providing you with an estimated time of service restoration as quickly as we can. This can take some time as emergency crews assess the damage, but we know that this information leads your decision-making during an outage. We will communicate this through radio, television and newspaper interviews, as well as through social media and digital channels.

After all, electricity is an integral part of our lives, and doing our best to keep the lights on is something that we take very seriously. Have a safe and happy Halloween.

Anthony Haines
Toronto Hydro Corporation president and chief executive officer

ARE YOU READY?

According to a recent poll, 58 per cent of Torontonians do not have an emergency kit. Don't wait for the lights to go out.

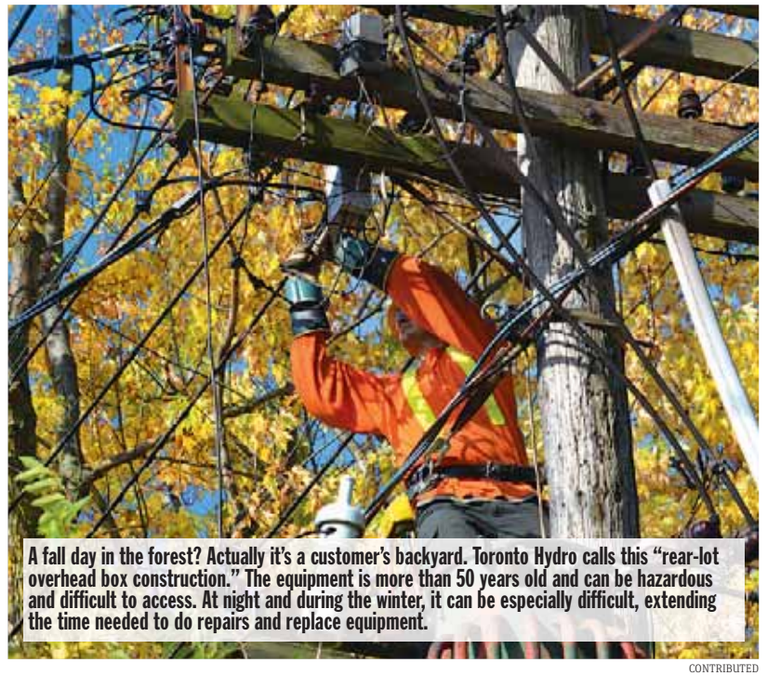
Download Toronto Hydro's guide to help you create your kit at torontohydro.com/safety.

Here are some quick tips about emergencies:

- Make sure every family member knows where to find your emergency kit.
- Keep some cash on hand. Credit cards and automated bank machines may not work during an emergency.
- Check your kit when you change your clocks each season. Make sure canned food and medication are still fresh and add new items as needed.

Happy Howl-O-Ween. Toronto Hydro has its best picks for pet costumes and pet safety tips. For more information, please visit torontohydro.com/safety.

CONTRIBUTED



A fall day in the forest? Actually it's a customer's backyard. Toronto Hydro calls this "rear-lot overhead box construction." The equipment is more than 50 years old and can be hazardous and difficult to access. At night and during the winter, it can be especially difficult, extending the time needed to do repairs and replace equipment.

CONTRIBUTED

TENDING TO TREES

During severe weather, trees are often responsible for power outages. In fact, trees cause about five per cent of all outages and impact approximately 84,000 customers per year. Heavy wind and rain can cause trees and branches to fall on power lines.

You can help Toronto Hydro avoid tree-related outages by regularly trimming trees and vines away from power lines. You are responsible for maintaining the trees on your property, even the ones on the boulevard.

If you notice trees or shrubs growing on or around Toronto Hydro equipment don't trim them yourself, call a professional service or report it to Toronto Hydro by calling 416-542-7800.

LIGHTS OUT, NOW WHAT?

Have you ever wondered where to go for information when your power is interrupted?

Toronto Hydro provides outage information through a variety of channels and they differ based on the type of event — be it a planned outage while crews conduct maintenance and replace aging equipment, or during unplanned events when power is interrupted for many customers or a longer period of time.

Here's how to get information about unplanned outages.

1 REPORT YOUR OUTAGE: Don't assume that Toronto Hydro is aware of your outage. Just because you've tweeted at Toronto Hydro doesn't mean that you've reported an outage. The utility needs your customer account information and will ask you for other details related to your power interruption. Always report your outage to the customer service centre at 416-542-8000.

2 CALL THE CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE FOR UPDATES: In addition to logging outages, the customer care hotline provides customers with detailed information about ongoing unplanned outages and will often include the status and estimated time of restoration for specific power interruptions. Call 416-542-8000 and press "1" for updates.

3 VISIT THE OUTAGE MAP ON TORONTOHYDRO.COM: Toronto Hydro reports unplanned power interruptions on its outage map. You can view impacted neighbourhoods and the approximate number of customers affected.

4 FOLLOW TORONTO HYDRO ON TWITTER @TORONTOHYDRO: During emergencies and widespread outages, Toronto Hydro tweets status and power restoration updates. You don't need to have a Twitter account to view this information, simply go online to twitter.com/torontohydro.

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WHAT'S NOT TO LOVE ABOUT THE SEAT?

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

I've bought new furniture all by myself for the first time, and I think it's safe to say after years as a stereotypical bachelor, I'm all grown up now. And not just a grown-up — a family man.

I'll explain.

All my previous big-ticket purchases have been nothing but big tickets (plane trips, concerts, hockey games), so I was a little intimidated when I started reading online advice about buying furniture. The tips said this was a Big Life Decision; it was all about strength and style and "what's most important is what's on the inside."

They made it sound like I was buying people — a brand-new family. This was disconcerting. If it was true, then my existing furniture had been a ragtag group of has-beens and ne'er-do-wells.

There was the sad little orphan coffee table, left over from my failed marriage. You could almost hear it coughing from the dust.

There were two yellow-green chairs that were still living in the past.

There was my $299 mattress, which had done its duty for a decade but had passed on some time ago. It received a martyr's funeral, carried out of the apartment on my shoulders while I sang its praises. I fired no weapons though, because the landlord doesn't like holes in the wall.

Most prominently, there was my love seat. You know those celebrities like Clint Eastwood and Dave Hodge where you think, "Geez, they were old when I was a kid." That was the love-seat, which was dug out of my dad's baby barn after spending a lifetime in my grandmother's house. It was already dead, really, but we Febrezed it back to life (defebrezulated?) and its elderly frame hunkers in my apartment still.

It's not a stately old maid either. It's more like the type of senior who tells you about that time she slept with Leonard Cohen, then coughs into a tissue and sticks it into her bra. The upper left corner is tearing. I guess that's bursitis.

Faced with this lot, I decided I would live the dream of so many and replace my family. I started with a new bookcase and a new bed, grabbing both from an adoption agency called Ikea.

The family looks really good, I think, and fits well into my life — partially because of my keen eye for this sort of thing, partially because I haven't taken them out of their boxes yet.

I've heard a lot of horror stories about rushing into family life, so I thought I'd build myself up to it. It's natural. The new bed should be created in nine months or so. You'll know when it happens. Expect lots of profile pics on Facebook.

ZOOM

More smiles than spooks

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO IN VANCOUVER

B.C. resident shows off big pumpkin

Vancouver resident Chuck Kokol has a pumpkin display every Halloween outside his heritage home. Neighbours say he's outdone himself this year with this mammoth, which weighs more than 700 pounds and took a carver six hours to create.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Picture perfect

"I wanted a children-friendly face, a happy Halloween. I see Halloween is going to the extreme in the other way, but I do our show with just pumpkins. I believe it's a beautiful effect." Chuck Kokol

'It looks like a UFO landed'

Sporting a mile-wide smile (actually more like four feet) and standing up to shoulder-height on most people, Kokol's cheery jack-o'-lantern comes in as one of British Columbia's biggest pumpkins.

Seven hundred watts of lighting have been installed and Kokol is ready for the big day.

"At nighttime, it's just an amazing glow. It looks like a UFO landed and it can been seen from up the block," he said.

Kokol got the gargantuan pumpkin from a grower in Langley, B.C. after it completed its career on the contest circuit, featuring in shows in Portland, Ore., and Cloverdale, B.C.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

If only you could figure out what to buy the person who has everything. And if only you could do a good deed while you're at it. Introducing (you guessed it), IfOnly.com. The site connects sports, music, film and lifestyle "luminaries" with everyday folk — well, everyday folk who have fancy gold cards. Celebrities are putting on offer their time in exchange for a cash money donation to a charity of their choice. Experiences and items range from $35 to more than $100,000. Here's a sample of what's on offer:

$35:
The least expensive item on If Only includes a guitar pick signed by Soundgarden's Chris Cornell. Maybe not the most exciting option (unless you know a die-hard Soundgarden fan) but the money is for a good cause: The kids.

$2,000:
Not only do you get red-carpet passes to Joseph Gordon-Levitt's directorial debut Don Jon, in the U.K., you also get to walk the red carpet with him and co-star Scarlett Johansson.

$78,600:
Watch a boxing match with a boxing legend. Begin the day eating lunch with Mike Tyson and follow it up with a 'big-time' boxing match sitting ringside with the boxing great (background check required).

GETTY IMAGES

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Almost half of B.C. believes in ghosts — and Metro's Paul Sullivan isn't impressed. Do you believe in #ghosts?

@igor_mariano: I don't believe in them, ghosts are usually big liars

@Canucklehead_ca: I don't even believe that 'ghost peppers' are a real thing. What's next, ghost towns?!!!

@singh_amna: of course!!

@TimothyPRylett: Yes Ghost towns Do Exist, Have you been to Detroit? LOL

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

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Send us your comments: torontoletters@metronews.ca

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A graveyard smash in T.O.

Let's do the Mash. For those who are keeping it real and saved all the fun for the 31st, here are just a few ways to have a horrifyingly good time tonight

BACKSTAGE PASS
Ian Gormely
scene@metronews.ca

A lot of people took the weekend to celebrate All Hallow's Eve. But there are still plenty of entertainment options open to those who held out for the real deal.

Haunted houses are a good go-to for an early evening and there's no short of those in the city. The Active Learning Centre on Dundas West hosts an indoor Boo Bash!

Meanwhile the Exhibition Place is hosting an indoor "scream" park in the Queen Elizabeth Building. And there's always the annual Halloween Haunt at Canada's Wonderland.

Halloween has never really been known as a "highbrow" holiday — candy and cheap costumes tend to give a day that kind of rep.

But that's not stopping the Arts & Letters Club from hosting an evening of opera based on Edgar Allen Poe's writing. Not to be outdone, witch and zombie inspired art shows are taking place at Elephant Shoes on Bloor (Witchy Art) and the Doris McCarthy Gallery at the University of Toronto Scarborough (You Cannot Kill What is Already Dead).

Speaking of highbrow, cable channels have played a steady stream of slasher flicks since the beginning of the month, but in case you're still in the mood for silver screen frights, the TIFF Bell Lightbox is screening Dead Ringers, Ginger Snaps, the Exorcist and the Changeling.

Horror fans with a shorter attention span should head to the Royal, which has gathered a collection of trailers, shorts and oddities.

And the Bloor hosts its annual Rocky Horror Picture Show screenings at 7 and 10 p.m.

Pretty much every bar in town has some sort of seasonal dance party on the go. Early arrivals to the Drake will be treated to pumpkin carving by sushi chefs while the Gladstone hosts a Spooky Speakeasy.

But Death to T.O. 3 easily packs in the most bang for your buck. Spread over two stages at the Silver Dollar and the Comfort Zone, 15 local bands will dress up as and play the music of their favourite groups.

Think Teenanger as the Ramones, Digits as Kraftwerk and Young Mother as Pulp.

Elsewhere, Sheezer, the all female Weezer tribute act, once again saddle up for a night of Blue Album and Pinkerton favourites at Lee's Palace.

And for funkier frights look no further than the Phoenix, where soul legend Lee Fields performs with local funk crew KC Roberts and the Live Revolution.

Get freaky with Dr. Frank N. Furter and the rest of the Rocky Horror Picture Show cast at the annual Halloween screening at the Bloor. CONTRIBUTED

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Film is full of momentous goodbyes

All The Wrong Reasons. One of Cory Monteith's final movies hits screens this week, and his co-stars talk about filming the flick

Cory Monteith "never complained" about work on All the Wrong Reasons, says co-star Emily Hampshire. CONTRIBUTED

Filming overnight in a Halifax Zellers store on the set of All the Wrong Reasons was like fulfilling "a childhood fantasy in a way," says actress Emily Hampshire.

"Being able to go into a store when it's closed down and you can take everything and play with the toys, that was really fun, in the movie and shooting it," she said in an interview at the recent Toronto International Film Festival, where the drama debuted.

But it was also a sad occasion during shooting in summer 2012 as the store was being converted into a Target "and all the employees there were being let go," she added.

"If they wanted to get a job at the Target, they had to, like, apply for a job and lose all their seniority," said Hampshire. "It was kind of heartbreaking to see what was happening, so they were really thrilled that we were filming there, actually.

"It was such a kind of momentous goodbye, I guess."

All the Wrong Reasons is also a goodbye of sorts for fans of Cory Monteith. It's one of the late Glee star's final two films.

Fredericton-born Gia Milani makes her feature directorial debut on the project, which opens Friday in Toronto (Cineplex Scotiabank) and Vancouver (Cineplex International Village). Milani also wrote and co-produced.

Victoria-raised Monteith, who died in July at age 31, plays an ambitious big-box department store manager who gets cosy with a cashier (Hampshire) when his wife (Karine Vanasse) suffers intimacy issues due to post-traumatic stress disorder.

Vanasse's character developed a phobia of people touching her after going through a harrowing experience, and she finds comfort in prescription drugs as well as a new security guard (Kevin Zegers) at the department store, where she supervises surveillance feeds.

Hampshire, a Montreal native with film credits including The Trotsky and Cosmopolis, said she did a Skype meeting with Milani before signing on.

"In that Skype session I think we discovered — aside from the fact that I was doing the movie — was that we were maybe twin sisters separated at birth.

"Our mothers look insanely alike. They both had this flash of white hair, and there were just so many things that we had in common. So it did feel like a kindred spirit kind of thing, which helped going into the shoot, especially with a first-time director."

Hampshire got to train with cashiers who worked at the store and said she developed "a lot of respect for them" and is "a way better customer now."

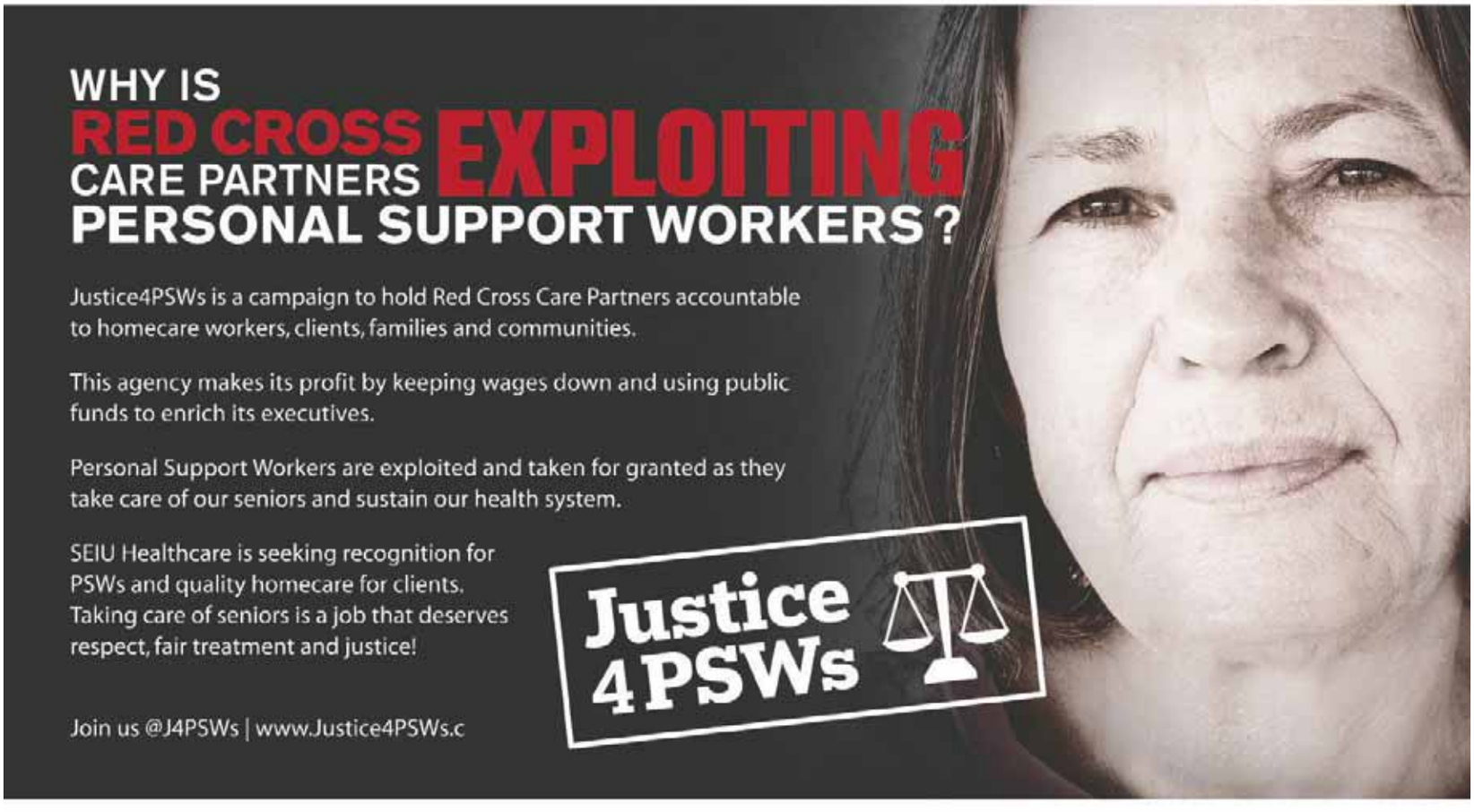
Meanwhile, Monteith was flying to Los Angeles "on the weekends, going to do press (for Glee) and then flying back and doing our super low-budget movie where we were all sharing a room for our trailer and changing together," noted Hampshire. "And he never complained. If anything, he was the captain of that ship of: 'We're all in this together.'"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

She's a survivor

Emily Hampshire's character is contemptible at times, but the actress saw her as "a survivor" who was "trying to make the best life for herself that she could under the circumstances."

"It's funny, I guess I have a particular affinity for the person who does the bad thing," she said with a laugh. "I don't know where this comes from, maybe I was a terrible teenager."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Losing weight and gaining a movie

True story.
McConaughey lost 47 pounds to play an HIV patient in Dallas Buyers Club, a film that almost didn't get made

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

By the time Matthew McConaughey signed on for the long-in-development Dallas Buyers Club, it had become one of those projects many in Hollywood assumed would just never happen. The film, about real-life early HIV patient Ron Woodroof (McConaughey), has had several actors attached over the years without going forward. So what changed with McConaughey? He willed it into production through massive weight-loss.

McConaughey famously dropped 47 pounds for the role, filming at an alarming 137 pounds, and as far as he was concerned once the weight started coming off, the train had left the station. "There were many times as we were approaching, people were going, 'It's not going to happen. How about pushing it to spring?'" McConaughey remembers. "And I was like, 'You're going to make me go through Christmas and four more months of this? You want me to be 110? No!'"

As much attention as his weight loss has gotten — he says he's gained back 40 of the 47 pounds — McConaughey doesn't think it's that big of a deal. "The body's much more resilient than we give it credit for sometimes," he says. "You're reminded of that especially after women give birth. It really can rebound."

In fact, he'd even go so far as to call losing all that weight fun. "Even the hard work is fun. The going down 47 pounds was fun," he says. "It's a singular focus, to have something to grab onto and say, 'Let's see where we get to and what we do.' That's fun."

"Dallas Buyers Club" serves as a kind of culmination of a remarkable career renaissance for McConaughey over the past two years, when he returned to film after a brief break with a string of remarkable, off-kilter roles in Bernie, Killer Joe, Mud and Magic Mike. As for what sparked the change, McConaughey gives full credit to his wife and two young children at home. "This is a really healthy time in my career. I'm enjoying and loving acting more than I ever have," he says. "I've got a really great support system in my family where when Popeye goes to work, they come. And they allow me to put the blinders on. I've got a wife who allows me to not have to look in the rearview mirror. And I'm still getting time with my family — and if anything I'd say kids sure help the job I do. They sure remind you that we're playing make-believe, so let's make them believe. They sure remind you to be goofy as hell if you want to, which just frees up the instrument so that it's really working, when you're acting you're not really acting."

The movie

Directed by Jean-Marc Vallée (The Young Victoria, C.R.A.Z.Y.), Dallas Buyers Club speaks to real life issues.

- In 1986, the AIDS crisis was still a misunderstood horror.
- Woodroof (McConaughey) smuggles unapproved treatments across the border from Mexico to patients neglected by the medical establishment.

Matthew McConaughey lost 47 pounds to play the role of HIV patient Ron Woodroof in Dallas Buyers Club. CONTRIBUTED

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Tori Spelling. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Desperate housewife: Tori spells it out in sixth memoir — she's got a sex tape

Tori Spelling admits that there's a sex tape featuring her and husband Dean McDermott floating around out there, though it's been a couple of years since she's heard about it. According to Spelling's sixth memoir, Spelling It Like It Is, she and McDermott were looking to spice things up in 2009. "Dean said, 'We should tape ourselves having sex,'" she writes. "He had a little portable tripod, and he set up his video camera on it. Afterward, I checked my angles and they were good, so I allowed him to keep it." Apparently a former friend of the couple snatched it off their home computer and attempted to sell it two years later. "I was horrified," Spelling writes, explaining that they sent the man a cease and desist letter. "We never heard from him again, and the incident went away."

Lohan's sobriety = partying till the break of dawn

October apparently hasn't been an easy month for Lindsay Lohan's fledgling sobriety.

The troubled starlet has been spending a lot of time at bars, clubs and parties this month, and she's reportedly fallen off the wagon when it comes to booze, according to Star magazine.

"She was definitely drinking alcohol. She got increasingly sloppy as the hours went on," a source who spotted Lohan at a party in L.A. last week tells the magazine.

"At one point Lindsay was literally hanging onto a couple of her friends, like, they were holding her up."

She's also reportedly been sneaking vodka cocktails at bars in New York, and she partied till dawn at "an alcohol-fuelled bash" in Hollywood with Paris Hilton and Miley Cyrus recently.

"Lindsay arrived around 3 a.m. and was still there when dawn was breaking," a source says.

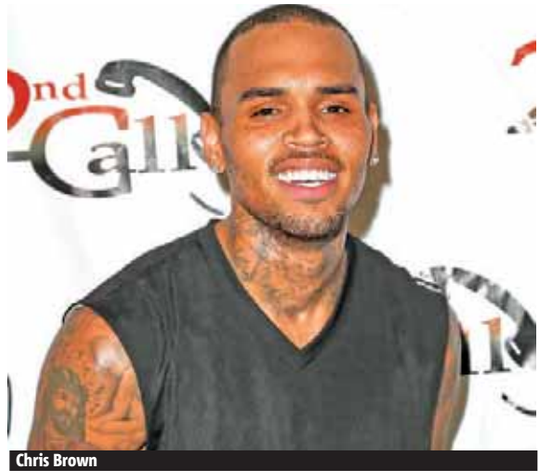
METRO

Twitter

@AnnaKendrick47
Oh hello again 4am, you whore.

@tyrabanks
My tablet got too hot to handle so I made her take a chill pill in the fridge. Hope she's not claustrophobic.

@jimmykimmel
note to every LA news channel — unless they're in a zoo, all bears are "on the loose"



Chris Brown

Chris Brown off to rehab for anger management

Chris Brown has checked himself into rehab for some anger management issues just a day after appearing in court over charges he assaulted a man outside a Washington, D.C., hotel. "Chris Brown has elected to enter a rehab facility," his rep says in a statement.

"His goal is to gain focus and insight into his past and recent behaviour, enabling him to continue the pursuit of his life and his career from a healthier vantage point."

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Take Kerr of yourself and your best will surely follow

She's starting with the model in the mirror. One of Australia's most magnificent imports spills her style, beauty and wellness tips

TINA CHADHA
Metro World News in NYC

"Be good to yourself and then you'll be able to give a lot more to your family, to your friends and to your work," says Miranda Kerr. CONTRIBUTED

Days before she walked the runway at Stella McCartney and Chanel's Spring 2014 Paris Fashion Week shows, we met up with Miranda Kerr at the chic rooftop of the Gramercy Park Hotel. There, the star of Mango's new grunge-inspired fall campaign talked about her fave looks from the '90s ("An oversized blazer, ankle boots and leather jacket with studs") and let us in on her style and beauty essentials.

You always look so well put together. How would you describe your look?
I try to go for classic and effortless and experiment a little bit depending on my mood. I like functional clothes especially, because now I'm a mom and go to the park. But when I go to work, I enjoy putting on a heel and embracing that feminine side.

How has your personal style changed since becoming a mom?
I keep it more practical now. It's all about fabrics that don't crease because I'm always holding (my son. Flynn) always wants to be in my arms or swinging on swings. I think comfort is important and wearing fabrics that make you feel good and accentuate the parts about yourself that you like. It's not necessarily about following a trend, but finding pieces that work with your body type.

You live in New York now. Talk to us about closet space.
It's not enough! But it's good because I've gotten rid of so much stuff I actually feel lighter. I have three little closets that I try to squeeze everything into. I've stripped it back to the basics and gave at least a room full of stuff to my friends and charity. I've also learned to maximize space. Now, I fold my jeans so they sit up, so when you open the drawer you see them.

If you were travelling and could only pack a small bag, what would go in?
A great pair of jeans that fit well, a blazer, a couple of T-shirts, a pair of loafers, a scarf and a hoodie — and one little black dress. I always pick up scarves at the airport, like airports in Asia, because it's not what you normally see. You'll find something different there.

You know how to rock a red lip. What are some of your beauty tips?
If I'm tired I just put on a red lip and sunglasses and it's a simple and effective way to uplift the face — just add a splash of colour. Sometimes I'll use a bit of the lip colour on my cheeks so I look a bit more alive — like the blood is pumping, the circulation is going. I also apply my KORA Organics lip balm to highlight my cheekbones. It makes you feel fresh.

You're a certified health coach. Any new healthy habits you've incorporated?
I have hot water and half a lemon in the morning. It's a very simple tip that cleanses the digestive system when you wake up and it really kick-starts your metabolism. Then I have a cold pressed green juice, like kale, spinach and celery with lemon, and then I have a smoothie that I make myself. I think it's really important to have a balance in life and fill your body with nutrients when and where you can, but then also know that you're a human being and you can't be too hard on yourself. I try to be 80 healthy and 20 per cent indulgent. I just don't believe in depriving yourself because life is short and we're here to enjoy it.

Read her lips

Revlon ColorStay Ultimate Liquid Lipstick in Top Tomato, $10.99, revlon.com

Chanel Rouge Coco Shine Sheer Lipshine in Rebelle, $34, chanel.com

Ellis Faas Milky Lips in Dark Blood, $35, sephora.com

Drink up!

Kerr's smoothie ingredients

- Coconut water
- Chia seeds
- Goji berry
- Maca powder
- Spirulina
- Acai powder
- Noni powder
- Sun warrior protein powder

ELLE 3

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Lila

Language teacher

What she's wearing
Joe Fresh black boots, Joe Fresh sweater, Joe Fresh jeans, black Zara blazer and glasses by Italian designer Alveiro Martini.

Her inspiration
"My sister. She is in love with fashion and is taking fashion design at Ryerson. I wear all of her clothing and look to her for style advice and fashion trends."

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Trends Report

- If you're fond of taking selfies, then you've most likely come across a "duck face" pic. Now another fowl has become the latest trend in bird-inspired selfies – the sparrow. Go online to Trends Report to find out what a "sparrow face" is and how to take the perfect "sparrow face" selfie.

Tweet me your best sparrow face' selfie at @MetroIreneK

metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK

Something chic, something see-through, something shiny and something blue

The latest edition of Toronto's World MasterCard Fashion Week has drawn to a close, but you haven't seen the last of these notable trends that emerged from the spring-summer runways.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Whitney Linen. NATHAN DENETTE / THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feeling the blues

There was no shortage of shades to select from in the colour wheel during Fashion Week, but various blue hues stood out from the pack on the runway. While there were prominent paler shades like baby blue and periwinkle, navy and midnight blue served as the go-to tones in many of the lines, transforming the traditionally cooler weather colour into a must-have addition for the spring and summer wardrobe.

Paria Shirvani. NATHAN DENETTE / THE CANADIAN PRESS

Showing skin

For those who may be reticent about baring too much flesh, the prominence of sheer materials often teamed with more matte fabrics may offer a happy medium. Paria Shirvani wholeheartedly embraced the trend toward translucent fabrics, with her asymmetrical V-neck blouses, see-through skirts and an inventive spin on the wrap-front black pant with one leg entirely encased in sheer material.

Rudsak. NATHAN DENETTE / THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heavy metals

Silver took the gold as the main metallic of choice on the runway. While the holidays are typically the prime time for garments showcasing a little sparkle and shine, shimmering silver was prominent as a standout accent, from colouring sleeves and skirts to full-scale treatment on moto jackets and even a pair of suspenders showcased by Rudsak.

Caitlin Power. NATHAN DENETTE / THE CANADIAN PRESS

Feminine fashions

With fitted pencil skirts, silken blouses and a vast range of dress styles from flirty minis to shirtdresses, tiered creations and floor-skimming numbers, designers continued to deliver with their assortment of ladylike looks. Some designers opted for striking pairings of bold, dual hues or oversized patterns to lend some pop to the stylish essentials.

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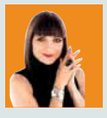

JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

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Make like Five, Seven and Two, and get to painting — hearts, not roses

Painted-Red Sugar Cookies

The queen's gardeners, Five, Seven and Two, painted roses red after accidently planting white ones. You'll paint two to three dozen cookies. JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL FROM ALICE EATS (WHITECAP BOOKS)

"If you make a mistake, don't lose your head," write Pierre A. Lamielle and Julie Van Rosendaal in Alice Eats of Five, Seven and Two's Painted-Red Sugar Cookies. "A little paint can fix it up and if that fails, brush up on your cookie-baking. It's more difficult to execute someone who has just given you cookies, so stack the deck in your favour..."

Ingredients

Cookies

- 1/3 cup (85 ml) butter, at room temperature
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) canola or other mild vegetable oil
- 3/4 cup (185 ml) sugar
- grated zest of a lemon
- 1 large egg
- 2 tsp (10 ml) vanilla
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp (5 ml) baking powder
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt

Paint

- 1 egg yolk
- a few drops red food colouring

To make the cookies

1. In a bowl, beat the butter, oil, sugar and lemon zest with an electric mixer until pale and light; add the egg and vanilla and beat for a minute, until smooth and blended.

2. In a small bowl, stir together the flour, baking powder and salt. Add to the sugar mixture and stir by hand or beat on low speed just until you have a soft dough. Shape the dough into a disc, wrap in plastic and refrigerate for half an hour.

3. When you're ready to bake, preheat the oven to 350 F (180 C). On a lightly floured surface, roll the dough out to about 1/8-inch (3 mm) thick. Cut the cookies into card shapes — or flowers, hearts, spades or a combination of shapes — and place 1 inch (2.5 cm) apart on a parchment-lined baking sheet.

Alice's advice

Egg-yolk cookie "paint" cooks dry and glossy and you have far more control with a paintbrush than an icing bag. Try making an entire palette of colours in small ramekins, adding a few drops of food colouring per egg yolk.

To make the paint

1. Put the egg yolk in a dish and add a few drops of food colouring. Mix with a fork until well blended. Use a small paintbrush to paint the unbaked cookies with the red "paint."

2. Bake for 14 minutes, until the cookies are pale golden around the edges and the paint is dry and glossy. Using a thin spatula, transfer to a wire rack.

RECIPES EXCERPTED FROM ALICE EATS (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY PIERRE A. LAMIELLE AND JULIE VAN ROSENDAAL

Cookbook of the Week

Alice's culinary Wonderland

The foods in Alice in Wonderland are instantly recognizable. In their book, Alice Eats: A Wonderland Cookbook, Pierre A. Lamielle and Julie Van Rosendaal answer questions like, "What would the treats at a Mad Hatter party taste like?"

Not only does the book feature recipes (Mock Turtle's Mock Turtle Soup, The Queen of Hearts' Jam Tarts and more), photos and illustrations but also the full text of the original Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll. METRO

Snack. Mad Hatter's No-Time Cream Drop-Scones

"If you only keep on good terms with Father Time, he'll do almost anything you like with the clock," write Pierre A. Lamielle and Julie Van Rosendaal in Alice Eats.

"For instance, suppose you want to eat scones — you can use this time-saving recipe and enjoy freshly baked scones at the drop of a hat! Time for tea!

Ingredients

- 1 1/3 cups (310 ml) all-purpose flour
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) sugar
- 1 1/2 tsp (7 ml) baking powder
- 1/4 tsp (1 ml) salt
- 1 cup (250 ml) heavy (whipping) cream
- coarse sugar, for sprinkling

1. Preheat the oven to 400 F (200 C).

2. In a medium bowl, stir together the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Add the cream and stir just until the dough comes together.

3. Drop by large spoonfuls (or use a small ice-cream scoop for more uniform scones) onto a greased or parchment-lined baking sheet. If you like, sprinkle with coarse sugar.

4. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes, or until golden. Serve warm.

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Legal Matters

Easements can make life complicated

We're purchasing a property and we want to re-develop it and put a larger home on the lot. We made an initial deposit and set about planning for a nice new home to be built. Our lawyer discovered during her title search that there's a Bell Canada easement down one side of the property, effectively cutting off a six-foot strip of land that runs from the front of the lot to the back. This substantially cuts down on the size of the house we can build, because you can't build on a registered easement. What can we do about this?

LEGAL MATTERS
Jeffrey Cowan
home@metronews.ca

Properties with easements that allow for services and utilities are extremely common in urban environments. If you're purchasing a piece of land for development purposes, it's often vitally important that you determine if there are any such hindrances to using the full lot size for your new building. This should be a condition of the transaction.

In your case, I assume the deal is not conditional and you now want to know if you can get out of the transaction.

Typically, Agreements of Purchase and Sale allow for minor easements to be accepted by the potential buyer. The magic number is seven per cent of the easement compared to the overall lot size.

If the area of the easement is over this percentage, it's generally considered to be a major easement and you don't have to accept the property.

You should be able to claim the deal null and void and get your deposit back from the realtor who's holding it. If the total area is under that percentage, you may be buying a property on which you have to work with a six-foot no-build zone on one side. Good luck!

Follow Jeff Cowan on Twitter @Cowan_Law or on the website at cowanlaw.ca

Solariums and wall-to-wall broadloom: Older buildings are hotter than you think

Blast from the past. Don't laugh — savvy buyers know you'd be hard-pressed to find such large bedrooms in any new condo

CONDO TRENDS
Duncan McAllister
life@metronews.ca

A recently sold unit at 24 Wellesley St. W. has the requisite old-school broadloom and solarium with sliding doors.
COURTESY KELLER WILLIAMS ADVANTAGE REALTY

A view of the solarium in a recently sold unit at 1001 Bay.
COURTESY KELLER WILLIAMS ADVANTAGE REALTY

My first condo was at The Summit at King and Bathurst in the 1980s. Along with Harbour Square, it was possibly one of the first condominium developments in the downtown core. I found the 700-square-foot unit ridiculously small at the time, but it had a highly sought after feature — a solarium.

The goldfish-bowl structure had a full set of sliding glass doors in the living room. There was wall-to-wall broadloom throughout and all the appliances were white. (Avocado was considered rather passé at that point.)

More recently, I rented a two-bedroom suite across from the Scarborough Town Centre. It was in an older, well-maintained Tridel building; a sprawling two bedroom, two bathroom, 1,000-square-foot suite with a view of the lake. Not quite as retro as The Summit, but still with the broadloom throughout.

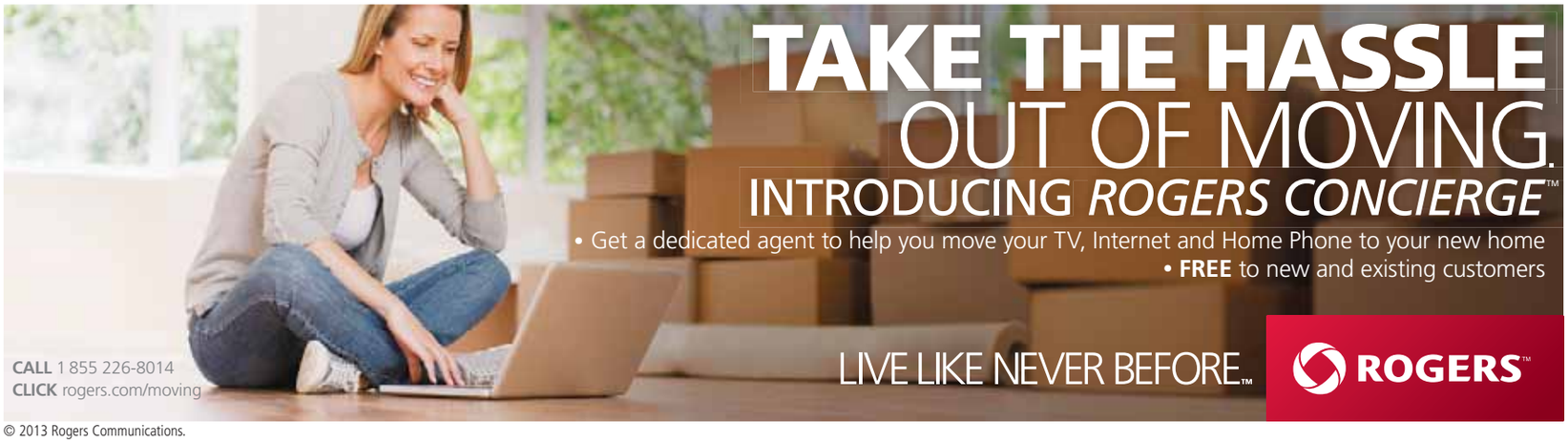
These are the older condos in the GTA, often with larger floor plans. Many have outstanding, albeit dated, facilities and retro marble lobbies, but you'd be hard pressed to find such large bedrooms in any new condo.

According to Scott Hanton, a Realtor with Keller Williams Advantage Realty, some of the older, dated condo buildings downtown are selling quickly at full asking price, whereas the newer, more modern buildings can take longer to sell.

"A few years ago, something like 33 Charles where there are brand-new, all-glass wrap-around balconies, we would sell those in a day and with multiple offers. Those days tend to be long gone now," Hanton says. "In the world of downtown condos it really does become an issue of old versus new. I have buyers who will only do one or the other.

"However, the 20-to-30-year-old buildings with dated kitchens, carpets, and of course those solariums we all thought were the next best thing way back when, can surprisingly be snapped up very fast if it's at the right location and priced fairly. 24 Wellesley St. W. and 1001 Bay are two perfect examples."

According to Hanton, people are really starting to value space again even if some of the older buildings have comparatively higher maintenance fees. "People seem to be willing to pay a bit more to get a bedroom that you can get a king-size bed in, which are a rarity these days in some of the newer condos." And as far as the solarium goes: "What were we thinking?" says Hanton.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The condo-hotel comes to Markham

A rendering of The Signature Condominium Collection by night. CONTRIBUTED

Meet the condo

- **What.** The Signature Condominium Collection
- **Location.** Warden Avenue and Hwy. 7
- **Builder.** The Remington Group
- **Sizes.** From 530 to 1,435 square feet
- **Pricing.** From the mid-$200,000s
- **Suites.** One bedroom, one bedroom plus den, two bedroom, two bedroom plus den
- **Phone.** 905-948-9900
- **Website.** signaturecondominiums.ca

The project overview

The Signature Condominium Collection is downtown Markham's first exclusive condominium hotel. Floors one to seven comprise the Marriott Hotel with 209 rooms. Condominium residences are on floors eight to 16. Tentative occupancy is slated for February 2017.

Location and transit

The newest downtown in Canada's largest metropolis, the condo's centrally located along Highway 7 near the Buttonville airport in Markham. Commuters will enjoy close proximity to Highways 407 and 404, as well as several YRT bus routes.

In the neighbourhood

A Marriott Hotel and Cineplex Entertainment centre are at the core of phase one. The complex boasts luxury residences, premium office space and a wide array of dining and retail options. It's adjacent to Markham Town Square and Flato Markham Theatre.

Building amenities

Residents have access to hotel services at the Marriott, including professional 24-hour concierge service, a ballroom with four-star dining, an indoor pool with whirlpool, state-of-the-art fitness centre, room service, two rooftop terraces and party room.

Provincial review

The cost of development charges

BRYAN TUCKEY
President and CEO of the Building Industry and Land Development Association (BILD) can be found at twitter.com/bildgta, facebook.com/bildgta, and bildblogs.ca.

Last week I wrote about the province of Ontario's consultation to review aspects of the provincial planning system. BILD and OHBA will be at the table representing the industry and new home buyers in two very important discussions: one focusing on Ontario's land-use planning system and decision-making process, and the other on the financial components of the development process.

My last column focused on the first half of the discussion, explaining the essential role the OMB plays in the development approval process. This week I will share my thoughts on some of the issues discussed in part two of the consultations, specifically development charges and parkland dedication fees.

The ability for people to afford to purchase a home is on a steep decline and financial components of the development process are a major factor.

Development charges (DCs) make up between 33 to 52 per cent of the total government charges on a new home, which total one-fifth of the final price on average. In fact, a recent report has shown that development charges have increased between 143 to 357 per cent since 2004 in a number of GTA municipalities.

Development charges are a tax on new home buyers who are already doing their fair share to support the development of essential public infrastructure. But while DCs have received the most attention in the media lately, they are but one in a series of government charges and fees new home purchasers must account for when they sign on the dotted line.

Another good example is parkland dedication, which requires developers to provide up to five per cent of land for parks at the time of development or up to one hectare per 300 homes. If the development does not have a park site, the developer is required to pay cash-in-lieu for the value of the land, which is then passed on to the purchaser.

What does this mean for the consumer? In Richmond Hill, for example, parkland fees have increased exponentially and in many cases the fee exceeds the value of the entire parcel available for development. This acts as an impediment to building in centres and transit corridors.

What's hot on the condo market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1. Malton

SOFA presents: Trends from the Fall 2013 High Point Furniture Market. Nov. 6, 10:30 a.m. to noon. Canadel Furniture, Suite 102, International Centre, 6900 Airport Rd. **TO RSVP CALL 905-678-4402 OR VISIT SOFA.COM**

2. North York

Open House: Newly constructed condos at 701 Sheppard Ave. Several units available. Thursday from 12 to 6 p.m. **CALL 416-461-9900**

3. Downtown

Grand opening: Twenty Lombard downtown condominium residences. Head over to the presentation centre at 26 Lombard St., Nov. 2 from noon to 5 p.m. **CALL 416-499-8883 OR VISIT GREATGULF.COM**

4. Riverside

Open House: Riverside townhomes at 140 Broadview Ave. Several units available. Nov. 2 and 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. **CALL 416-368-5262**

Kitchen trends with staying power

Every year we see new kitchen trends come and go. Like fashion, kitchen styles can change quickly, so it's important to only incorporate the ones you really love, knowing you can live with your decisions for a long time. This year we're seeing three trends that I think will stick around and are worth investing in.

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

Left, Samsung's 30-inch French Door Refrigerator. Below, LG's Countertop Microwave with Oven comes with a warming drawer for food or plates.

1

Small-space solutions

Whether you have a teeny-sized condo kitchen or a large eat-in, family-style one, it's important to utilize every square inch of storage. Making the right decision on appliances is equally important.

I found the perfect, high-end-looking fridge that slips easily into any kitchen. It's got the features and looks of a high-end appliance, but boasts a regular price. The Samsung 30-inch French Door Refrigerator is finished with stainless steel — which is still a very popular choice for the kitchen — holds more food than any other fridge in its category and comes in at less than $1,500. Great visual value, more storage and a trendy finish wins me over!

Say goodbye to yesterday's microwave and toaster oven and hello to the Countertop Microwave with Oven from LG for $399. This model has a 1,400-watt oven drawer for warming food or plates, meaning it's a countertop appliance that you can use in many different ways.

2

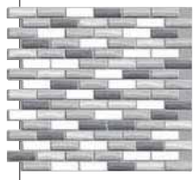
Interesting accents

The personality in kitchen design is coming from natural sources like stone, marble and granite. Flooring, countertops and backsplash are all on-trend when getting their look from nature.

Well, how about some new products to help give us that look? From high-end to low-end, stone-like surfaces are trending in many ways. Caesarstone countertops are a man-made solid-surface material that started gaining popularity about 10 years ago. Until recently, most of the faux-stone styles have been in the form of a solid colour or speckled to emulate granite. But Caesarstone's Supernatural Collection creates a veined product that looks more like real stone or marble.

And on a DIY note, Canadian company Smart Tiles has designed a great-looking faux peel-and-stick tile that works perfectly on a backsplash (or any vertical surface that is not submerged in water). Starting at around $8 per square foot, this is a fun way to update your kitchen or bath without a long-term commitment. Their stone and stainless looks will fool the eye and add lots of character to your kitchen.

Delta's Trinsic Single Handle Pull-Out Faucet, $280, has a sleek European design and a lever handle that makes operation easier. It adds that modern industrial feel to your kitchen for much less than you think — faucets like this generally cost $500 and up.



Above, a countertop from Caesarstone's Supernatural Collection. Left, Smart Tiles' peel-and-stick tiles, thesmarttiles.com, and Delta's Trinsic Single Handle Pull-Out Faucet.

Above, Whirlpool's Electric Range with True Convection Cooking from the White Ice Collection.

Below, KitchenAid's Variable Temperature Kettle in white.

3

The return to white

The classic white kitchen is by far the biggest seller when it comes to cabinetry and appliances.

For a long time, we've seen wood-coloured cabinetry and black or stainless appliances gain favour. But white appliances are feeling fresh and new again with modern designs and a bit of stainless steel or chrome for sparkle.

Whirlpool has introduced the White Ice Collection and their Electric Range with True Convection Cooking, $1,199, offers clean design lines, streamlined controls, and an Aqua-Lift cleaning feature that allows the inside oven to clean itself in an hour or less (most self-cleaning ovens take three to six hours).

On a smaller scale, KitchenAid's Variable Temperature Kettle, $129, in white has modern touches that remind me of my favourite smartphone. It's got a large, 1.7-litre water reservoir and features a Keep Warm feature that's handy when you need to add some more hot water to the teapot.

Replacing old bathroom fixtures may not be in the budget, but you can still update the remaining decor — in this case, a shade and hanging lights amp up the retro theme, while a fresh colour palette keeps it contemporary. ISTOCK

Update a bathroom without throwing cash down the drain

Decor. If you can't afford to replace retro fixtures, decorate around them

Bathrooms covered in outdated tile with coloured sinks and bathtubs can be an eyesore for many homeowners, but instead of spending money gutting and renovating, the space can be updated by combining modern design and personal tastes.

When clients approach Victoria interior designer Nicole Scott about updating their washrooms, she said they are often tired of living in a room that represents a previous owner's or tenant's style.

"It is usually that people have said to me that there is this oppressive feeling of it being someone else's tastes and they want to change the feeling of it," she said.

Spend vs. save

- There are areas where Scott said it's worth spending the money. For example, even though there are products that are marketed as being suitable to cover laminate countertops, Scott said she would never paint a counter top.

Unlike larger rooms in a home, bathroom redesigns — as long as major fixtures aren't being moved — can be tackled by the homeowner.

Homeowners may have to develop their design around larger items in the bathroom that because of budget can't be removed, Scott noted.

"I think that the first thing people need to figure out is what is the overall feeling or style they want to achieve and then you can pick all of your colours and finishes based on that," she said. "If you live in an older home and like more traditional style you can pick fixtures and go in that direction.

"For tenants in an apartment who aren't able to change very much you may want to go with the retro feel of the tiles you can't change, and run with that."

Scott said even though washrooms can have limited wall space it's a great option to use unusual and interesting visuals. "One of the things I'm obsessed with right now is vintage soap labels," said Scott. "On eBay I just ordered some for myself and a client. We have these great vintage soap labels that you can frame inexpensively and put two or three on a wall. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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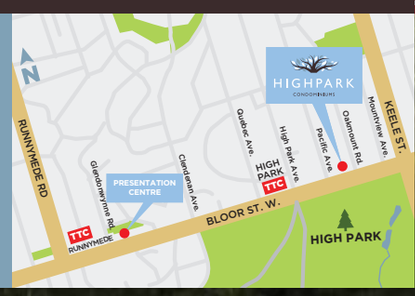

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Getting new wood to age gracefully

DIY. Dark-roasted coffee, sandpaper and hammers can help make furniture appear beyond its years

Winter is fast approaching, and adding wood elements to your decor will create a warm atmosphere in which to spend the upcoming cold months. While naturally distressed wood is extremely popular, it can be hard to find.

With some creativity and a few household items, it's easy to recreate this effect on brand new wood or recycled furniture.

Prepare the wood

If you're starting a project from scratch, look for pieces of lumber that have knots and unique markings. If remodelling an existing piece of furniture, make sure to sand all surfaces to remove paint or stain before beginning. This will bring out the wood's natural grain and prepare the surface for a fresh finish.

Channel some aggression

Collect hammers, screwdrivers, chains or anything else that could be used to add interesting dents and scratches to the wood.

Feel free to get creative by gently hammering the side of screws or stones into the wood. Always take extra precaution when using tools in a different way than their intended purpose and wear safety goggles to protect from any flying objects.

Before finishing, give the corners and edges a hammer. Straight edges are a dead giveaway the wood isn't naturally distressed.

Coffee break

There are many ways to stain wood to give it an aged look, but using dark-roasted coffee is a popular and inexpensive method. After applying a coat or two of coffee, feel free to add a layer of stain by brushing it on and then wiping off the excess. For the most natural look, gently sand the areas that would get worn down the fastest, like arm rests or desktops, to reveal more grain.

Seal the deal

Use a coat or two of clear finish to help seal in the colour. All that's left to do is come up with a fascinating back story for your new antique piece of furniture.

Rehab Addict

- For more practical ideas, tune in to an all-new season of Rehab Addict, Tuesdays at 9 p.m. beginning Nov. 19 on DIY Network Canada.

Applying a coat or two of coffee is an inexpensive way to help give new wood furniture an aged or distressed effect. ISTOCK

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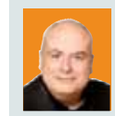
Storage

A cure for the multi-season closet



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With fall weather in full force, it's high time to change over your closet from summer to winter.

People often ask me where they're supposed to put all of their off-season things. Without a storage solution, many of us just keep struggling along with a closet that's overflowing with both our warm and cool-weather clothes — and so we curse every time we need to get dressed.

What are we to do? Here are some great solutions that I've used in both small apartments and large homes.

- I fill old suitcases with off-season clothing and put them under the bed, in a guest closet or in the garage — covered with a tarp to keep the dust off — until I need the clothing again.
- A decorative armoire, chest of drawers or a trunk being used as a coffee table are all great off-season storage solutions.
- If you have the space, an unused basement, empty kids' room or attic is great. I like to simply hang my clothes on a rack — sometimes called a hostess rack — and cover them with a white cotton sheet to keep the dust off. It's really the simplest way if you have the luxury of space.
- Lastly, there are great vacuum-sealer bags that you can buy. You fill them with clothes, then use your vacuum cleaner to suck the air out of the bag to reduce the volume. Once they're deflated, it becomes much easier to find places to store them all around your home. Just don't forget where you put them!

So there you go. I promise that if you store your off-season clothes elsewhere, your closet will be a much more enjoyable experience every day when you go to get dressed.

CB2's Versus Galvanized Trunk is a chic storage solution for off-season clothes, $179 at cb2.ca. COURTESY CB2.CA

The London Trunk from PBteen is made from wood and reclaimed leather and costs $1,057 plus a delivery surcharge from pbteen.com. COURTESY PBTEEN.COM

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Collodion photography's modern Gothic feel

Art. Technique popular during the mid-1800s is being embraced as an antidote to digital pics

Frustrated by the ease at which digital photos can be taken and doctored, some artists are kicking it old school: They've revived wet-plate collodion photography, a medium invented and popular during the mid-1800s.

Complicated, cumbersome (it requires darkroom work on the spot) and potentially hazardous, the collodion process uses raw chemicals in a race against the clock.

The result is eerie and antiquated, which suits both adventurous photographers and art collectors looking to add a modern Gothic feel to their homes.

"There's something about these hands-on, historical processes. You're so in control, you're making your film from scratch (but) you're subject to physics and the chemistry, and then you're trying to make something in your mind's eye — the composition and lighting — while maintaining this technical finesse," says Quinn Jacobson, a Denver-based photographer. "There's great satisfaction in accomplishing that. There's a level of satiety that you don't get from working in digital or even film."

Atmospheric feel

"The aesthetic is kind of a half-remembered dream."

Denver-based collodion photographer Quinn Jacobson

Collodion portraits and landscape images have fine details but appear dark and moody — even haunting or ghostly.

"The aesthetic is kind of a half-remembered dream," says Jacobson.

The process involves coating a surface, usually glass or aluminum, with a mixture of collodion, ether, alcohol and two salts that dries to a tacky, clear film.

The collodion is derived from a flammable compound known as guncotton (in other uses, it's flash paper) dissolved in sulfuric and nitric acids.

The plate is made light-sensitive in a bath of silver nitrate, after which it is exposed to light. The image exposure can take seconds or several minutes, depending on available light and photographer preference. It's developed and then fixed, or stabilized, in a solution of potassium cyanide. With longer exposure and an added step, a negative for printing can be made.

Of all the chemicals in the process, potassium cyanide is the most dangerous. "A tenth of a gram is enough to kill a horse," says wedding photographer and collodion fan Matt Alberts. "There's 18 grams in my fix. That's kind of scary."

Alberts, also of Denver, learned the collodion craft from Jacobson nearly a year ago. He was motivated partly by learning that his ancestor, Lowell Gilmore of Albany, N.Y., worked in the medium more than a century ago.

Alberts has invested thousands of dollars in the collodion process, which for him captures the essence of photography.

"I'm creating something just with light and my hands. It feels more like art," he says.

Jacobson makes portraits of the "marginalized" — day labourers, the homeless, convicted felons. In his Ghost Dance project, he also documents sites in the West where troops massacred Native Americans in the mid-to-late 1800s. He's concerned he won't be able to capture the land's terrible past, but thinks the moody collodion — in use during those times — will help.

"It adds that mystery and darkness and that kind of melancholy feel to the whole project," says Jacobson. "I couldn't do this in film or digital. They'd be straight-up landscapes."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

These wet-plate collodion images include, from top: Kyleigh, Boulder, Colorado; and Dusty, Riverdale, Utah by photographer Quinn Jacobson. Next are images of lifelong skateboarders Terrill Schmidt of Arvada, Colo., and Walter Lacey of Denver by photographer Matt Alberts.

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A commitment to bold colour

Paint. If you're thinking of a bright feature wall, here are a few common mistakes to watch for

With bold paint colour becoming increasingly popular, many homeowners and interior designers are choosing to take the plunge with bright hues.

Bold feature walls and painted rooms are being seen more on the pages of magazines and design websites, and Kyla Bidgood, registered interior designer, said more of her clients are asking for the same.

"I think people have commitment issues with colour, but they want to experiment a little bit, and obviously the easiest way to do that is by not using paint," she said.

"You can use accessories, pillows, throw blankets or even area rugs to get pops of colour into a space without committing to paint your space."

But if you're looking at expanding the splash of colour onto your walls, Bidgood said it is important to consider balance.

Even though many people perceive white as a neutral and boring colour, it can be an important addition to a space if furnishings, accessories and artwork are bright and bold.

"White really draws your eye away from the wall to other furnishing, art and patterns," said Bidgood. "Navy blue and blacks make a piece of art with a white frame really pop, especially if the art is in a bright colour."

Bidgood said many people pick their paint colours based on the chip at the store. Instead of buying all your paint based on the chip, Bidgood said take small paint samples of several variations of the colour.

"It's really about finding the right hue, so if you have a colour in mind chances are what it looks like on the chip is going to be different than how it looks on the wall," she said.

"Get maybe three to five variations of the colour, and paint the swatches right on the wall and have a look at it in different types of lighting. Sit with it for a few days because you might have an idea of how it will look, but after a few days you may not love it as much anymore."

A common mistake Bidgood said people make when it comes to picking a wall colour is that it can be something they would choose in a fabric or piece of clothing.

"It doesn't necessarily translate to a larger surface like a wall," she said. "When you're picking a colour you often need to pick a colour that is slightly less intense because it is going to be very bold when you paint a large space."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Victoria-based interior designer Kyla Bidgood perked up this home office with bright blue paint. JEN STEELE PHOTOGRAPHY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Resale value

- When it comes to using bright paint colours in a home, a concern is often how it might affect the resale of the property. But whether you go bold or safe and neutral, interior designer Kyla Bidgood said you're never going to great a space that everyone loves.
- "Chances are if you sell and someone moves in they will want to paint it again anyways," she said. "If I were to buy a house that was all beige, I would definitely be looking to paint it. It's not to say the neutrals are necessarily safe either."

A bright red door on a home decorated by Victoria-based interior designer Kyla Bidgood. JEN STEELE PHOTOGRAPHY

Plugged in, but with panache

Futuristic furniture. The marriage of technology and decor has come a long way in recent years

It's one thing to have a beautiful, comfy bed. But what if it also included a TV screen, game console and dimmable, colour-changing lights?

Or say you've got just enough room in your apartment for a credenza or speakers, but not both. How about one piece that includes both — and a whole media system?

The integration of technology into home decor has come a long way since clunky TV screens peered out of armoires and media cabinets; today's super-thin screens can come embedded in the bathroom mirror or attached to the wall-like pieces of art.

TV manufacturers are moving into OLED (organic light emitting diode) technology, which can be linked to computers and other tech devices. It's thin as a pencil and able to be curved.

As for sound systems, Symbol Audio of Nyack, N.Y., has a New Audio Desk that incorporates high-quality speakers into a slim writing desk crafted from maple, walnut, oak or cherry.

Baby boomers may remember the family's old hi-fi system. While iPhones and iPads can now hold the equivalent of hundreds of Mitch Miller albums, there are still those among us who like the mid-century chic of a retro-styled system.

Symbol Audio (symbolaudio.com) pays homage to the hi-fi with the Modern Record Console, a walnut cabinet outfitted with a hand-built turntable, amplifier and built-in wireless router.

"The act of removing an album from its sleeve, cleaning and placing it on the turntable is interactive and physical. There is an undeniable charm to vinyl that's more than just a fascination with the past," said Blake Tovin, Symbol's founder.

Designer Chris Cushingham of Brooklyn, N.Y., crafts his own version of the hi-fi console out of walnut and corrugated cardboard. He'll also make you a custom one using your record player, audio gear and LP collection. Visit cushdesignstudio.com for more info.

Italian designer Edoardo Carlino's spacy-looking Hi Can canopy bed incorporates a theatre screen, integrated PC and game consoles, and built-in lights to create a self-contained bedroom-playroom.

Replace ceiling, floor or table lamps with IAV Lightspeaker's wireless fixtures (iavlightspeaker.com) and run your music through them. You get lighting, surround sound and no expensive wiring to deal with. For rentals and vacation homes, there's an outdoor version built into a faux rock you could put on a patio.

Kohler's Moxie showerhead (kohler.ca) has a Bluetooth speaker attachment so you can sync radio or playlists for bathing music. Disengage the speaker and carry it to another room, or the beach. Colours include white, cherry red, navy and chartreuse.

Ready for entertaining? Just hit "party" on Lutron's new Homeworks system. It sets the mood of a room with spotlights, dimmable overheads, music and thermostat settings. The company offers customized lighting options for a variety of moods and rooms. Visit lutron.com.

If you'd just like to disguise outlet and vent covers, check out Trufig's marble, wallpaper, wood or concrete flush-mounted options, (trufig.com) which make the connection disappear into the wall. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The New Audio Desk by Symbol Audio has built-in high-quality speakers, and is available in maple, walnut, oak or cherry. SYMBOL AUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Salamander Designs' Chicago console has high performance loudspeakers in elegant cabinetry. It's clad in striated black oak, intended to evoke the prairie grass of the Midwest. There are also versions done in walnut, American cherry and high gloss white lacquer. SALAMANDER DESIGNS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Symbol Audio's Modern Record Console, an updated take on the retro hi-fi system, has a walnut cabinet outfitted with a hand-built turntable, amplifier and built-in wireless router. CHRIS CARROLL/SYMBOL AUDIO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TV screens around the home

- The wallpaper mode on Sharp's new high-definition Aquos TV lets you display photos, paintings or other images as wall art when you aren't watching television. You can set a clock for display times, and the light level is reduced to get rid of glare.
- Want to stay on top of the morning news? Seura's TV screens embed in the bathroom vanity mirror. Robern's embed in the medicine cabinet. See seura.com and robern.com for more.
- TV manufacturers are moving into OLED (organic light emitting diode) technology, which can be linked to computers and other tech devices. It's thin as a pencil and able to be curved.

This Sharp AQUOS Ultra HD LED television features wallpaper mode, which allows a powered-off TV to display family photos, paintings or preloaded images. SHARP ELECTRONICS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Actual model suite shown.

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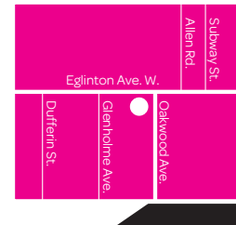

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Raptors rise to the occasion in opener

Off and running.
Toronto starts season with win over Boston

On Wednesday

Raptors	Celtics
93	87

The Toronto Raptors weren't about to let their season opener slip away.

Rudy Gay poured in 19 points as the Toronto Raptors pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat the Boston Celtics 93-87 on Wednesday to usher in a new NBA season.

Amir Johnson and DeMar DeRozan had 13 points apiece, while Kyle Lowry had 10 points and eight assists, and Jonas Valanciunas grabbed 11 rebounds to go with eight points.

Boston's Jeff Green had 26 points to lead all scorers, while Brandon Bass added 17.

The Raptors had squandered a 16-point third-quarter lead and the game was tied 71-71 with a quarter left to play.

But Johnson stepped back to drain a three-pointer to put Toronto up by four points with 6:21 to play, bringing the capacity crowd of 20,155 at the Air Canada Centre to its feet and injecting some late-game life into the Raptors.

DeRozan scored with two-and-a-half minutes to play to give Toronto a 10-point lead. Former Raptor Kris Humphries scored to pull the Celtics within five with under a minute to go, but that was as close as Boston would come.

Canadian Kelly Olynyk, who was born in Toronto and moved to Kamloops, B.C., made his NBA regular-season debut, finishing with two points in 16 minutes for the Celtics.

The night began with the traditional season-opening glitz and glamour. Players marched across a brightly lit stage to introductions while a drum line played. Gay took the mic and addressed the crowd, saying "Thanks for your support. Go Raps!"

Jon Bon Jovi sat courtside sandwiched between Tim Leiweke, president and CEO of Maple Leaf Sports and Entertainment Ltd., and Larry Tanenbaum, MLSE's chairman. Former Raptors fan favourite Morris Peterson was also at the game.

The Raptors are hoping this is the season they finally end their playoff drought. They went 34-48 last season to miss the post-season for the fifth straight year, then Leiweke virtually cleaned house in the front office, most notably hiring Masai Ujiri to replace Bryan Colangelo as general manager.

Management made few changes to the product on the floor, though, as all five starters Wednesday — Lowry, DeRozan, Gay, Johnson and Valanciunas — were back from last year, compared to this night last season when three of the starters were brand new.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raptors guard DeMar DeRozan drives to the hoop against the Celtics' Kris Humphries at Air Canada Centre on Wednesday. FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cleveland show

Cavaliers sink new-look Nets

Anderson Varejao's basket with 28 seconds left sent Cleveland to a 98-94 win on Wednesday night over the remodelled Brooklyn Nets in coach Mike Brown's first game back with the Cavaliers.

No. 1 overall draft pick Anthony Bennett tallied two points on free throws to go with five rebounds in his NBA debut.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Upset in Philly

Champs look like chumps vs. 76ers

Spencer Hawes scored 24 points and hit the winning basket late in the fourth quarter to lead the Philadelphia 76ers past the Miami Heat 114-110 on Wednesday night.

LeBron James blew two straight chances to put Miami up down the final stretch. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retirement

Iverson gives up on return to NBA

Allen Iverson officially retired from the NBA on Wednesday, ending a 15-year career during which he won the 2001 MVP award and four scoring titles.

The six-foot guard had not played in an NBA game since Feb. 20, 2010, and had a brief pro stint in Turkey. He played for Philadelphia, Denver, Detroit and Memphis in the NBA. Iverson scored 24,368 points and was an 11-time all-star.

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Ryder Hesjedal says he made mistakes involving performance-enhancing drugs more than 10 years ago. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Hesjedal 'chose the wrong path' as a young cyclist

Doping. Former Giro d'Italia champ apologizes, though he never outright admits to using PEDs

Star Canadian cyclist Ryder Hesjedal says he "chose the wrong path" after reports emerged Wednesday that suggested he was involved in doping.

Excerpts from a new book by former Danish rider Michael Rasmussen say Hesjedal was shown how to use performance-enhancing drugs at the start of his career.

"And even though those mistakes happened more than 10 years ago, and they were short-lived, it does not change the fact that I made them and I have lived with that and been sorry for it ever since," Hesjedal said in the statement.

Hesjedal, 32, did not explicitly say he took performance-enhancing drugs, but in the contrite statement he apologized to fans, sponsors and other cyclists.

"To everyone in my life, inside and outside the sport, to those that have supported me and my dreams — including my friends, my family, the media, fans, my peers, sponsors — to riders who didn't make the same choices as me all those years ago, I sincerely apologize for my part in the dark past of the sport. I will always be sorry," he said.

Excerpts of Rasmussen's autobiography Yellow Fever, released Wednesday in Danish newspaper Politiken, claim that Rasmussen taught Hesjedal and fellow Canadian cyclists Seamus McGrath and Chris Sheppard how to use EPO, a banned substance used in blood doping, in 2003 when Hesjedal was a young mountain bike racer.

Rasmussen did not claim he ever saw any of the Canadians actually take EPO or any other banned substance.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Over a year ago when I was contacted by anti-doping authorities, I was open and honest about my past."

Ryder Hesjedal

Bonus money

Armstrong loses key ruling in fight to keep $12M

A Texas company is closer to forcing Lance Armstrong to return about $12 million in bonuses he was paid for winning the Tour de France while secretly using performance-enhancing drugs.

A spokesman for Dallas-based SCA Promotions says a Texas arbitration panel ruled Wednesday that it would consider the company's appeal to recover the money. The company tried to prove Armstrong used steroids and other drugs and doping methods back in 2005, but ultimately agreed to pay Armstrong in a settlement.

Armstrong's attorneys argued the settlement was irreversible. But SCA went back to the same arbitration panel for a new ruling after Armstrong confessed he cheated to win cycling's biggest race every year from 1999-2005.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WADA audit

Jamaica says it's keen on improving anti-doping agency

Jamaica's top sports official said Wednesday that the Caribbean sprinting powerhouse is determined to improve its drug-testing regime, following a two-day inspection by the World Anti-Doping Agency. Three WADA officials inspected the Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission after revelations of a near-complete breakdown of its testing of athletes in 2012 prior to the July opening of the London Olympics.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World Series

"I try to live out what our team has lived out this year and, that is, not to look back."

John Farrell when asked about his two seasons spent as manager in Toronto before joining the Red Sox in 2013. Go to metronews.ca to see if the Red Sox clinched the title in Game 6 against the Cardinals on Wednesday night.

Leafs go 2-0 in Alberta

The Toronto Maple Leafs celebrate Joffrey Lupul's first-period goal against the Flames on Wednesday night in Calgary. The Leafs, playing their second night in a row after beating the Oilers 4-0 on Tuesday, also got goals from James van Riemsdyk, Mason Raymond and Paul Rangers to edge the Flames 4-2. DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Toronto	13	9	4	0	44	30	18
Tampa Bay	12	8	4	0	40	33	16
Montreal	13	8	5	0	37	23	16
Boston	10	7	3	0	30	17	14
Detroit	12	6	4	2	27	33	14
Ottawa	12	4	6	2	35	38	10
Florida	12	3	7	2	26	42	8
Buffalo	14	2	11	1	23	41	5

METROPOLITAN DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	12	8	4	0	38	29	16
N.Y. Islanders	12	4	5	3	37	39	11
Carolina	12	4	5	3	26	36	11
Columbus	11	5	6	0	31	29	10
Washington	12	5	7	0	34	38	10
New Jersey	12	3	5	4	26	37	10
N.Y. Rangers	11	4	7	0	18	37	8
Philadelphia	11	3	8	0	20	30	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Colorado	11	10	1	0	35	16	20
Chicago	13	8	2	3	45	38	19
St. Louis	10	7	1	2	38	25	16
Minnesota	13	6	4	3	30	31	15
Nashville	12	6	5	1	23	32	13
Winnipeg	14	5	7	2	34	40	12
Dallas	12	5	6	1	31	36	11

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
San Jose	12	10	1	1	48	20	21
Anaheim	13	10	3	0	42	33	20
Vancouver	14	9	4	1	41	39	19
Phoenix	13	8	3	2	43	40	18
Los Angeles	13	8	5	0	36	33	16
Calgary	11	5	4	2	34	39	12
Edmonton	14	3	9	2	36	54	8

Note: Two points for a win, one point for an overtime/shootout loss.

Wednesday's results
Toronto at Calgary
Boston at Pittsburgh
Detroit at Vancouver
San Jose at Los Angeles
Tuesday's results
Anaheim 3 Philadelphia 2
Chicago 6 Ottawa 5
Montreal 2 Dallas 1
New Jersey 2 Tampa Bay 1
N.Y. Rangers 3 NY Islanders 2
Phoenix 3 Los Angeles 1
St. Louis 3 Winnipeg 2
Toronto 4 Edmonton 0
Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
Anaheim at Boston, 7 p.m.
Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Nashville at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

NBA

REGULAR SEASON

Wednesday's results
Toronto 93 Boston 87
Cleveland 98 Brooklyn 94
Detroit 113 Washington 102
Houston 96 Charlotte 83
New York 90 Milwaukee 83
Philadelphia 114 Miami 110
Indiana at New Orleans
Orlando at Minnesota
Atlanta at Dallas
Memphis at San Antonio
Oklahoma City at Utah
Portland at Phoenix
Denver at Sacramento
L.A. Lakers at Golden State
Tuesday's results
Indiana 97 Orlando 87
L.A. Lakers 116 L.A. Clippers 103
Miami 107 Chicago 95
Thursday's games — All Times Eastern
New York at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Golden State at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

MLB PLAYOFFS

WORLD SERIES
(BEST-OF-7)

BOSTON (AL) VS. ST. LOUIS (NL)

(Boston leads series 3-2)
Wednesday's result
St. Louis at Boston
Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
x-St. Louis (Kelly 10-5) at Boston (Peavy 12-5), 8:07 p.m.
x — played only if necessary.

CFL

WEEK 19

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
y-Toronto	17	11	6	0	487	435	22
x-Hamilton	17	9	8	0	416	461	18
x-Montreal	17	7	10	0	436	451	14
Winnipeg	17	3	14	0	354	548	6

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
y-Calgary	17	14	3	0	542	387	28
x-Saskatchewan	17	11	6	0	493	368	22
x-B.C.	17	10	7	0	478	454	20
Edmonton	17	3	14	0	391	493	6

x — clinched playoff berth.
y — clinched division.
Friday's games — All Times Eastern
Montreal at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Calgary at B.C., 10 p.m.
Saturday's games
Hamilton at Winnipeg, 2 p.m.
Edmonton at Saskatchewan, 5 p.m.
(End of Regular Season)

NFL

WEEK NINE

Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
Cincinnati at Miami, 8:25 p.m.
Sunday's games
New Orleans at N.Y. Jets, 1 p.m.
Tennessee at St. Louis, 1 p.m.
San Diego at Washington, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Buffalo, 1 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at New England, 4:25 p.m.
Baltimore at Cleveland, 4:25 p.m.
Indianapolis at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Monday, November 4
Chicago at Green Bay, 8:40 p.m.

MLS

PLAYOFFS

KNOCKOUT ROUND (single-game elimination)
WESTERN CONFERENCE
Wednesday's result
Colorado at Seattle
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
Montreal at Houston, 8:30 p.m.

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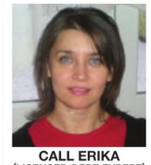

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
You don't need to do anything special today. Others will provide the entertainment, all you have to do is sit back and enjoy the good times. Some people may get emotional but you'll be in control at all times.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
Social activities will go well today and if you visit a place you have never been before, you will fun. Relationships too are under excellent stars, growing deeper and stronger.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Few people get more enjoyment out of their daily activities than you. But family and financial issues still need to be dealt with, and quickly. That means today, not next week.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
There is a great deal of tension in your life right now and with Mars and Pluto strong today, it could reach a peak. The good news is once that peak is reached, you'll accomplish something truly remarkable.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Sometimes you are too trusting and other times you are not trusting enough. Today, you'll be inclined to give someone who doen't deserve it the benefit of the doubt. Make sure it's not your money at stake.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
With action planet Mars in your sign allied to Pluto, planet of transformation, you should be aiming to change your life for the better. What is the biggest change you could make?

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You will surprise a few people today. Those who had written you off as too cautious will be astonished to see how dynamic and daring you are — and a bit scared by your level of passion.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You will be on the move today and the people you meet and the things you see will open your mind to new possibilities. The way you look at the world will change completely over the next 24 hours. That's good.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It is important that you focus on positive thoughts. If you let negativity to creep in, you'll convince yourself that life is against you when the universe really wants you to be happy.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Mars, planet of energy and ambition, will inspire you to do something beyond the call of duty. Whatever it is, you will make a great impression on people in positions of power.

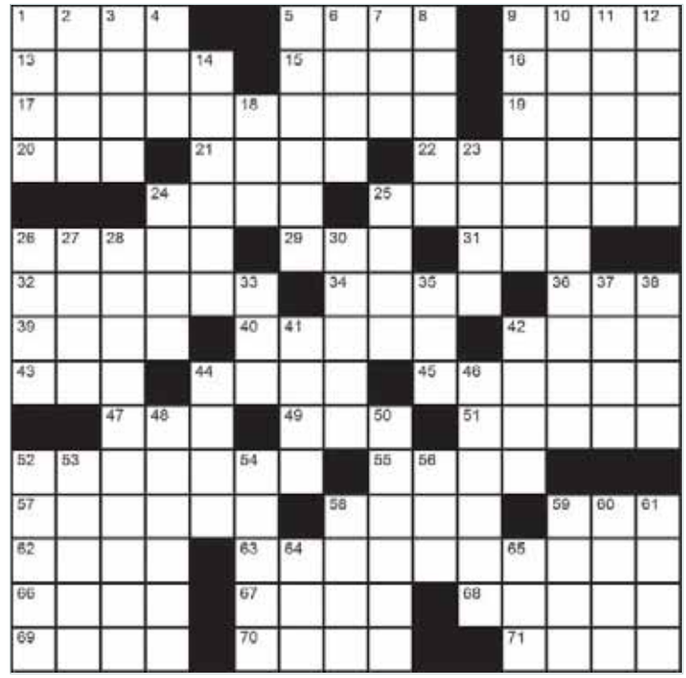
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Everyone is born with a purpose and you are no exception, so find out what it is and then commit yourself to seeing it through to the end. Don't hide in the background where you cannot be seen.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will be so excitable today but in a good way. It's as if you have swoken up to the fact that anything is possible and that what you desire most is the easiest thing in the world to possess. Get it! **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Halloween hit: "Monster __"
5. Large amount
9. Fight
13. Margarines
15. "_ __... _ Said" by Neil Diamond
16. Ireland
17. Full moon howlers
19. "Are you mad __ __?" ...queried the cold-shoulder-ee
20. Maiden name indicator
21. Roof's overhang
22. Delete
24. Not there
25. Cauldron stirrers
26. Aspect
29. Big TV brand
31. Sports official, for short
32. Struck with fright
34. Frost-covered
36. Strange
39. Twofold
40. Is forbidden to, quaint-style
42. Prior to, for short
43. 'Hallow' suffix
44. Droopy
45. Dracula author Bram
47. Trio of the Alphabet
49. And so on, shortened
51. __ up (Becomes more informed)
52. Frightful flick of 197666: 2 wds.
55. Applications
57. Scream!
58. Kind of agreement
59. "Yikes!!!"
62. Barenaked Ladies song
63. James Brolin/Margot Kidder thriller, "The __ Horror" (1979)
66. Bill of fare
67. Double affirmative, in Spanish
68. Composition
69. Units of work
70. All Hallows, and others
71.Writes

Down
1. Cut down, as grass
2. Sailing side
3. Bone dry
4. Tilling tool
5. What #17-Across don't like
6. Bat's hangout
7. Soul: French
8. Frisbee-shaped track-and-field thrown-things
9. Haunted house gathering
10. Accessories for devil costumes
11. Military force, in French
12. Film holders
14. Candies
18. Paddle
23. Take _ __ (Attempt)
24. Become better
25. Farm cart
26. Get dimmer
27. Flu symptom
28. Canadian horror starring George C. Scott, "The __" (1980)
30. Tales from the __ (Creepy comic book series)
33. "Stop over-sharing so many personal details!", briefly
35. Everest, et al.
37. "Groove Is in the Heart": 1990 dance music hit for __-Lite
38. Hook-ups for TVs
41. "Right on!"
42. Pea: French
44. Lemon's friend
46. Midnight, __ O'Clock
48. "You can't __ __ against our wishes!"
50. "Halloween" (1978) star, Jamie Lee __
52. Subject matter
53. Skills-sharpener
54. Obliterate
56. For example...
58. Bank of the __ at Auvers (Vincent van Gogh painting, oil on canvas, 1890)
59. "If all __ fails..."
60. Flair
61. Door openers
64. 1004 in ancient Rome
65. Web connector, for short

Yesterday's Crossword

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

2						9		6
		7	5		1			
3					2			
		6					7	
	9	2	1	5	4	3	6	
	1					5		
			6					2
			3		9	8		
8		4						5

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	2	3	7	4	5	8	1
5	4	1	9	8	2	3	6	7
3	7	8	5	6	1	9	2	4
8	2	3	7	9	5	1	4	6
7	5	4	6	1	8	2	9	3
1	6	9	2	4	3	7	5	8
2	1	6	8	3	9	4	7	5
4	8	5	1	2	7	6	3	9
9	3	7	4	5	6	8	1	2

Today
17°/9°
Rain
80%

Friday
14°/6°
Showers
40%

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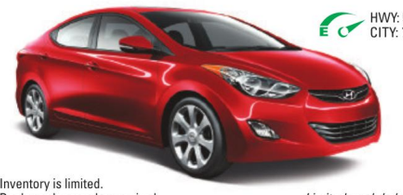

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Dealer order may be required.

Limited model shown

OWN IT FOR $79 BI-WEEKLY WITH 0%† FINANCING FOR 96 MONTHS + $1,000 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ
NO MONEY DOWN

SELLING PRICE: $16,535• ELANTRA L 6-SPEED MANUAL. $1,000 PRICE ADJUSTMENT◊, FEES, DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

★★★★★
AWARDED THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING•
U.S. NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

6 AIRBAGS • IPOD®/USB/AUXILIARY INPUT JACKS • POWER WINDOWS & DOOR LOCKS • ABS WITH TRACTION CONTROL SYSTEM • DUAL HEATED POWER EXTERIOR MIRRORS

2013 SONATA SE

HWY: 5.6L/100 KM
CITY: 8.7 L/100 KM▼

Inventory is limited.
Limited model shown

GET UP TO $5,250 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ

SELLING PRICE: $23,935• SONATA SE AUTO. $5,250 PRICE ADJUSTMENT◊, FEES, DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

★★★★★
AWARDED THE HIGHEST GOVERNMENT CRASH SAFETY RATING•
U.S. NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

SPORT-TUNED SUSPENSION • HEATED FRONT/REAR SEATS • 18" HYPER-SILVER ALLOY WHEELS • SIRIUS XM™ RADIO WITH BLUETOOTH® HANDS FREE PHONE SYSTEM • POWER SUNROOF

2013 SANTA FE SPORT 2.0T PREMIUM AWD

HWY: 8.4L/100 KM
CITY: 11.0L/100 KM▼

Inventory is limited.
Limited model shown

OWN IT FOR $168 BI-WEEKLY WITH 0.99%† FINANCING FOR 96 MONTHS
WITH $900 DOWN

SELLING PRICE: $34,395• SANTA FE SPORT 2.0T PREMIUM AWD AUTO. FEES, DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED. PLUS HST.

2013 CANADIAN UTILITY VEHICLE OF THE YEAR

AJAC www.ajac.ca
Automobile Journalists Association of Canada

STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE:

ALL-WHEEL DRIVE
- 264 HP 2.0L TURBOCHARGED ENGINE
- REAR PARK ASSIST

P.K. SUBBAN
Montreal Canadiens Defenceman and Hyundai Hockey Helper

HELP GET KIDS INTO THE GAME!

Last year Hyundai Hockey Helpers helped over 1,800 kids get in the game and is working hard to help even more this year. Visit your local Hyundai dealer in October to help get a kid into the game. Join us online and take the Hyundai 1,000 Puck Challenge to improve your game AND help kids in your community play hockey.

TAKE THE PLEDGE AT HYUNDAIHOCKEY.CA

HYUNDAI HOCKEY HELPERS

5 YEAR WARRANTY

5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty††
5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty

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HyundaiCanada.com

™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. All other trademarks are the property of their respective owners. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2013 Accent 5 Door L 6-Speed Manual/Elantra L 6-Speed Manual/Santa Fe Sport 2.0T Premium AWD Auto with an annual finance rate of 0%/0%/0.99% for 96 months. Bi-weekly payments are $73/$79/$168. $0/$0/$900 down payment required. Cost of Borrowing is $0/$0/$1,358. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,550/$1,550/$1,760, fees, levies, and all applicable charges (excluding HST). Finance Offers exclude registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2013 Elantra L 6-Speed Manual for $16,535 (includes $1,000 in price adjustments) at 0% per annum equals $79 bi-weekly for 96 months for a total obligation of $16,535. Cash price is $16,535. Cost of Borrowing is $0. Example price includes Delivery and Destination of $1,550, fees, levies, and all applicable charges (excluding HST). Finance example excludes registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees. Delivery and Destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Delivery and Destination for Sonata SE is $1,650. ▼Fuel consumption for 2013 Accent 5 Door L 6-Speed Manual (HWY 5.3L/100KM; City 7.1L/100KM)/Elantra L 6-Speed Manual (HWY 5.2L/100KM; City 7.1L/100KM)/Sonata SE Auto (HWY 5.6L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM)/Santa Fe Sport 2.0T Premium AWD Auto (HWY 8.4L/100KM, City 11.0L/100KM) are based on Energuide. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ♦Price of models shown: 2013 Accent 5 Door GLS 6-Speed Manual/Elantra Limited/ Sonata Limited/Santa Fe Sport 2.0T Limited AWD are $19,385/$24,985/$30,785/$40,395. Prices include Delivery and Destination charges of $1,550/$1,550/$1,650/$1,760, fees, levies, and all applicable charges (excluding HST). Prices exclude registration, insurance, PPSA and license fees. ΩPrice adjustments are calculated against the vehicle's starting price. Price adjustments of up to $10,000/$200/$1,000/$5,250 available on 2013 Genesis 5.0L GDI R-Spec (on cash purchases only)/Accent 5 Door L 6-Speed Manual/Elantra L 6-Speed Manual/Sonata SE Auto (on cash purchases only). Price adjustments applied before taxes. Offer cannot be combined or used in conjunction with any other available offers. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. No vehicle trade-in required. ▲Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). †Ω♦Offers available for a limited time, and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.